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Trip to China helps couple resolve daughter's tragedy

HONG KONG (BP) — Clayton and Scottie Gilbert made a trip to China this summer to close the curtain on a tragedy they didn't author.

The Alexander City, Ala., couple retraced their daughter Mary Anna's six-week experience as a Southern Baptist teacher in China. They began in Meixian where she taught and ended in Guangzhou where she died in a 1990 plane crash after an attempted hijacking.

The Gilberts began saving for a trip almost from the time their 23-year-old daughter left for China earlier that year. When she called to say how happy she was with her English-teaching assignment at Jia Ying University, they knew they had to visit to see firsthand what made her so happy.

As they read Mary Anna's let-

ters, the Gilberts made mental notes of people and places they wanted to visit on the trip: Mary Anna's students and new friend Yang Ningyu; the foreign affairs officer at the university; her classroom and the college hangout she called "the verandah"; and the Meixian church she attended.

Mary Anna's violent death Oct. 2, 1990, changed all that. As they coped with their grief, Mrs. Gilbert also had to face hip surgery. Her husband helped nurse her and carried on his part-time pastorate at Pine Grove Church near Alexander City and volunteer work at a halfway house for recovering drug addicts.

But the trip to China crept back into their lives one day. Gilbert was preparing a message for the Woman's Missionary Union meet-

ing at the Southern Baptist Convention in 1991. As he worked, he felt God wanted them to go to China — but not as tourists.

Their health would not permit a long-term commitment but the Gilberts volunteered for a summer teaching assignment. They contacted Cooperative Services International (CSI), the Southern Baptist aid organization that arranged their daughter's assignment.

"We wanted to experience some of what Mary Anna had experienced," Gilbert said.

The same day they filled out their CSI application, a letter inviting the Gilberts to teach arrived from Jia Ying University. Later, a letter came from Mary Anna's friend on the university staff, Yang Ningyu.

"She told us if we would come, she would treat us as her parents," Mrs. Gilbert said.

The Gilberts arrived in Meixian June 26. Waiting at the airport were Erin Thomas, the Southern Baptist teacher who survived the crash that took Mary Anna's life. Also waiting were two professors who had known Mary Anna — and their daughter's dear friend, Yang.

The young foreign affairs officer cried, "Mother! Mother!" as she embraced Mrs. Gilbert. True to her word, Yang — and other university officials — treated the Gilberts with all the filial respect Chinese reserve for their own parents.

"They treated us royally. In four days, we had seven banquets," Gilbert said with a laugh. "They couldn't do enough for us."

University officials made sure the couple visited all the favorite

tourist haunts in the area — and all the places Mary Anna had written about.

Gilbert's most meaningful experience came when he followed Mary Anna's path to a small store near the university. "In her letters, she told of sitting out on 'the verandah' sipping a Pepsi, looking at a pretty rice field while she meditated," he recalled. He bought a cold drink and sat for a while on the small porch overlooking the rice field.

He also climbed the stairs to a classroom similar to all classrooms. But his daughter had taught there.

The Gilberts visited the church Mary Anna attended and signed their names in a guest book that bore Mary Anna's name on an earlier page. They heard a soft moan pass through the congregation as the pastor introduced them as the parents of the happy young American who had lost her life in China.

"After our visit in Meixian, we understood why Mary Anna was so happy there," Gilbert said.

The Gilberts admit they can't always control their emotions. "Every so often, it's difficult to hold back the tears and not wonder why," he said. "I don't question God. Our children are God's from the beginning. At least we had her for 23 years."

Originally, the Gilberts thought they would teach at Mary Anna's old university. But Jia Ying's summer English-teaching program fell through, so Cooperative Services International assigned them to teach classes at the YMCA in Guangzhou.

Teaching 18-25 hours a week for five weeks and living in one small

room with no air conditioner was tough but it didn't keep the Gilberts from enjoying their students.

"They make you love them," Gilbert said. "You can't help yourself."

The students obviously loved the Gilberts too.

"They couldn't understand why we couldn't come back next summer and they couldn't believe we'd paid our own way to come," Gilbert said before they left for home Aug. 17 — exactly two years after Mary Anna had boarded a plane for China.

Gilbert told of a student slipping back into the classroom after the others had left. "She asked me to tell her a Bible story," he said. He did more; he gave her a Bible.

In Guangzhou the Gilberts also were entertained by Chinese airline officials.

"We got the VIP treatment," he said. "Because we didn't ask for financial compensation after the crash (that killed Mary Anna), I think they wanted to do something."

At a banquet given for the couple, Gilbert thanked the officials for the help they gave at the time of their daughter's death. Later, when an official asked if the airline could do anything further, Gilbert said he and his wife would like to visit the tarmac where the crash occurred.

"I didn't think I could go," Mrs. Gilbert said. "But I'm glad I went. Erin (Thomas) went with us."

"I don't know why I wanted to see it," Gilbert added, pausing to find an answer. "But I did. And afterwards, I felt — satisfied."

Christianity is fastest-growing faith, task force says

PASADENA, Calif. — Though pessimistic voices say the golden age of Christianity is over, and suggest the Christian faith is being replaced by Islam and other beliefs, Christianity is the world's fastest-growing religion, and it is growing faster than the world's population, according to the Lausanne Statistics Task Force.

The task force, headed by David Barrett, reports that the ratio of non-Christians to Bible-believing Christians now stands at 6.8 to 1, the lowest ratio in history.

The task force has amassed statistics including world population, the number of people who do not claim to be Christians, the number of people who call themselves Christians, the number of Bible-believing (evangelical) Christians, and the number of

"unreached people groups" in the world, in various years from A.D. 100 to 1992.

In A.D. 100, there were 360 non-Christians for every Bible-believing Christian. The ratio has been getting smaller ever since: 220-1 in 1000, 69-1 in 1500, 27-1 in 1900, 21-1 in 1950, 11-1 in 1980 and 6.8-1 in 1992.

The evangelical movement, worldwide, is growing three times faster than the world's population is growing.

The statistics are evidence that we are not "losing the battle," writes Ralph D. Winter of the U.S. Center for World Mission in that organization's magazine, *Mission Frontiers*.

"With each passing year we are in a better and better position to evangelize the world," Winter writes. "We have before us the

brightest set of hope-filled resources, the most extensive, global network of eager believers in thousands of prayer cells and strategizing committees. We have never had so many competent, sold-out soldiers for Jesus Christ. The job to be done is now dramatically smaller in terms of our resources than ever before."

In the last 16 years, the number of Christian believers in Nepal has grown from 500 to 500,000, an increase of 100,000%, according to Campus Crusade for Christ International.

One reason for the phenomenal growth has been Campus Crusade's New Life Training Center, which trains Christians in discipleship and teaches them to share their faith with others. Campus Crusade has been working in Nepal since 1976.



MEMORIES OF MARY ANNA — Clayton and Scottie Gilbert look out over the Chinese city of Guangzhou. Their 23-year-old daughter, Mary Anna, died there in a 1990 plane crash. The Gilberts went to China this summer to see the land and people their daughter, who taught in China under Southern Baptist sponsorship, loved so much. They too came to love the Chinese during a five-week teaching stint of their own. (BP photo by Warren Johnson)

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

Pondering the transponder

The Radio-TV Commission has entered into a new agreement of channel-sharing which has raised eyebrows all over the land. The new channel, "VISN-ACTS," will begin Oct. 1, but much static is being heard over the lines.

The commission has been hamstrung with financial problems since it started. The truth is that the electronic ministry is terribly expensive. Shoe-string budgets produce shoe-string operations. Satellites in space cost big money. The SBC has held tight reigns on the budget and refuses to let Radio-TV ask for money on the telecast. Sky-rocketing expenses and increased competition finally caught up and something had to be done.

In July 1962 the first communication satellite was launched. It was hailed as a new era of world communication. From the comfort of our living rooms we can see a boxing match in Kenya or watch a

war from Kuwait. All of this and more in a 30-year span. What will we see in 2020? Television screens on your wrist watch, TV from foreign nations with instantaneous translation... perhaps even the building of a spaceport on a distant planet. Whatever it is Southern Baptists need to maintain a viable presence on the airwaves.

Jack Johnson, president of RTVC, said we had to do something to "preserve the network." The opportunity came and we joined with others in sharing a channel. The "others" include mainline denominations plus Mormons, Christian Scientists, and Unitarians. Joining together on a religious network is not exactly approving the ministry of other religions. We have a number of churches on television for their Sunday services. When they conclude anything may be next, including a beer-sponsored football game. This does not imply

that First Baptist is approving the previous or the latter presentation.

If we are serious about reaching the USA we need to cover the USA with our message. Preaching to each other down in Dixie is good, but what of New England, the far west, or even Russia even if it means sharing the channel? We can telecast with them without being a part of them.

Admittedly this is not palatable to everyone. Local affiliates have a right to be alarmed by this since they have invested heavily in it. Whatever we do, we need to keep making the gospel available even if we have to share the satellite transponder on a religious channel.

The alternate plan could be much worse. Options are few with limited finances. Television could well be the greatest media invention since the printing press. It would be a shame for us to let this opportunity slip by while we argue about eating and drinking with sinners.

Guest opinion...

Gambling and the Mississippi summer of 1990

By Paul G. Jones II

First of a two-part series

The summer of 1990 began as Southern Baptists headed to convention in New Orleans and the legislature of Mississippi headed into special session. In less than two weeks and for only \$300,000, the legislature ignored the issue of education funding and passed only one piece of legislation. After almost two weeks, the 138-page, 4,395-line Mississippi Gaming Control Act (HB 2) was passed and signed by the governor. The laws of Mississippi will never be the same.

The first result was to reproduce into the laws of Mississippi the gambling laws of Nevada. In the public hearing on the bill held in early June, the primary advocate who spoke was an assistant attorney general from Nevada. Mississippi legislators were informed that the laws of Nevada require that any holder of a Nevada gambling license can operate in another state "only if the laws of the other state conform to the laws of Nevada."

The legislature passed the act, which practically imposed the gambling laws of Nevada on the citizens of the state of Mississippi. Many around the capitol bragged that they had created "a little Nevada." Mississippi could have had its own laws, written to protect its citizens from the problems of other states; instead, the legislature chose to make it as easy as possible for Nevada gamblers to operate in the state.

Hidden in the 4,395 lines of the act was a section that did what no legislature had risked doing in years — create a new state bureaucracy, a new agency of state government. The act specified that until Oct. 1, 1993, the oversight of gambling would be the responsibility of the State Tax Commission. However, on Oct. 1, 1993, the "Mississippi Gaming Commission" will automatically spring into existence. No further act of the legislature or action of the voters is required. On Oct. 1, 1993, while everyone else is having to "downsize," a new state bureaucracy will explode on the scene with executive staff likewise mandated by law.

The complete staffing of the new bureaucracy could add several hundred new employees to the already burdened state payroll. The 1990 special session of the legislature created a potentially huge new bureaucracy for the state. They then forgot to tell the voters of the new agency for which their taxes will begin to pay on Oct. 1, 1993.

Another section of the act created the system that allowed counties on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and along the Mississippi River to legalize dockside/riverboat casinos. The laws were so written that all the burden was placed on the opponents of dockside gambling. The system was written so as not to burden the gambling interests.

All that a proposed gambling

operation must do is file a "Notice of Intent" (not a request for license or approval) with the Gaming Commission and publish such notice three successive weeks in a newspaper in the county. Those who oppose dockside gambling have 30 days to craft a petition, secure the names of 20% of the registered voters or 1,500, whichever is less, and submit the petition to the county board of supervisors for approval.

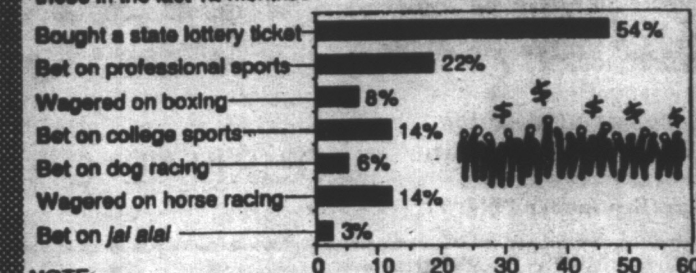
If the petition is deemed appropriate, the board of supervisors shall call an election no less than 30 days and not more than 60 days later. If no petition is received within 30 days or the petition submitted is ruled invalid, the board of supervisors must declare gambling legal in the county and no election can be held on the issue at any time in the future.

If a vote is taken, and the proposition to legalize passes, the citizens can never vote on the issue again. But, if the proposition to legalize fails, the proponents of gambling may bring the issue up again after twelve months. The opponents lose the right to re-vote on the issue while the Mississippi Gaming Control Act allows advocates of gambling to keep bringing it up until they win. Those who do not want gambling lose any future right to vote.

Jones is executive director of, Christian Action Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention.

THE ENTICING LURE OF BETTING

On a Gallup Poll conducted April 4 to April 19, 1,208 adults in a random sampling nationwide were surveyed. These percentages were "yes" responses to the question "Have you done any of these in the last 12 months?"



NOTE:

Sports gamblers tend to be young men, more affluent, and more likely to drink and smoke.

The margin of error was 3 percent. Some respondents placed bets in several categories. SOURCE: The Gallup Organization

Gambling addiction common, experts say

Americans spent \$20 billion last year illegally wagering on sporting events, according to a recent Business Week study. Five percent of the U.S. population, or 12 million people, have a gambling addiction. These compulsive gamblers affect 9 million spouses and 18 million children. Lotteries last year became a \$17 billion industry. All America suffers.

The effects of compulsive gambling

By Larry Braidfoot

Compulsive gambling is usually thought of as a man's problem but Marilyn (not her real name) knows better.

Marilyn was a young housewife with four small children when her husband, after years of financial losses to gambling, hocked the tools of his trade, gambled the money away, and then committed suicide.

The plague of compulsive gambling on Marilyn's family did not end with the death of her husband. Marilyn's teenage son, who was only 8 when his father died, is now himself a compulsive gambler.

"My husband and I had a perfect marriage, except for the gambling," Marilyn said. "I only gradually began to realize that he had a problem when there always seemed to be some catastrophe which supposedly kept him from getting home with his paycheck."

"I loved him and stuck with him," she said. "Gambling is an illness just like alcohol addiction or drug addiction. It was hard, but I couldn't run out on him."

"There were many years at Christmas time when we couldn't buy the children presents. I remember when the sole of my son's shoe came loose and we were not able to fix it or to buy him new ones," she said.

"One of the hardest parts was the discovery that my son had become a compulsive gambler, too. In his late teenage years he began to imi-

tate what as a small boy he had seen his father do."

Marilyn is not alone. Thousands of families each year feel the devastating effects caused by family members who are frequent gamblers.

This woman has suffered greatly because of her husband's compulsive gambling. She has become a strong, independent person, capable of taking care of herself. She has managed to avoid feeling guilty and inadequate and partially responsible. Thousands of wives and mothers and friends are not so lucky.

The state in which Marilyn lives is not a "wide open" gambling state. Most of the gambling activity in which her husband was engaged was illegal, but if the efforts of the gambling industry to further legalize lotteries, pari-mutuel gambling, and casinos succeeds, more women and their families will suffer.

Legalization of any form of gambling dramatically increases the amount of gambling in that city or state. In addition to recruiting new customers to the game, the legalization of gambling also provides an enormous boost to illegal gambling which inevitably increases.

Braidfoot is former general counsel and director of Christian citizenship for the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

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Young will appoint task force to "look at" SBC

By Herb Hollinger

HOUSTON (BP) — A task force to examine "where we've been, where we need to be" will be named by Southern Baptist Convention President H. Edwin Young Sept. 23 so that "we can come together as a denomination."

Although many details will await a news conference immediately following the Sept. 21-23 Executive Committee meeting in Nashville, Young told Baptist Press he will appoint nine special study groups with 11 members in each and two "co-chairmen" for each group. The 18 "co-chairmen"

then will come together as the special task force to make suggestions and recommendations to the denomination.

Young, pastor of Second Church in Houston, said he would give the task force the challenge to come up with "where we (the SBC) ought to be (as a denomination)."

"I will present the concept to the Executive Committee, not for approval or disapproval, but to share it with them," Young said. "After the Executive Committee meeting is over, at about lunch on Sept. 23, I will hold a news confer-

ence and name the study groups and the co-chairmen."

The nine study groups Young will appoint, not in any priority order nor necessarily the final title of the groups, are: (1) Reaching the World with the Gospel, (2) Reaching America with the Gospel, (3) Cooperative Program and Special Offerings, (4) Women's Ministries, (5) Multi-ethnic ministries, (6) "Lengthening our cords and strengthening our stakes," (7) Theological, (8) Family, and (9) Teenagers and Children.

Young, alluding to controversies plaguing the SBC, said one of the

reasons for establishing the task force was because there are "lots of barriers we need to break down. It is part of my dream for our denomination, my vision, that we would do that which are worthy kingdom goals."

Complimenting the SBC's agencies and institutions for doing a "good job," Young nevertheless said "maybe it's time for the leadership in the convention, in the churches as well, to step up and give leadership (to the denomination)."

"My understanding is that the

denominational structure — agencies and institutions — are servants of the churches," Young said. "The denomination and the churches need to get together for the Lord."

Young, 55, was elected president of the SBC in June at the annual meeting in Indianapolis. The Laurel native said at the Indianapolis meeting, "We (SBC) need to put a kingdom goal out there and say to all who can rally around that, 'come on Southern Baptists, we're ready to move forward.'"

Hollinger is director of Baptist Press.

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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EBF, FMB leaders sign pact; dialogue, cooperation pledged

By Mike Creswell

HAMBURG, Germany (BP) — European Baptists and the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board have declared peace.

Leaders from both sides signed a 10-point pact, during a Sept. 11-12 meeting, which pledged future cooperation, partnership, and joint ministry throughout Europe. The signers, who met at a hotel outside Hamburg, Germany, were seven European Baptist Federation leaders and six Foreign Mission Board representatives, including three board trustees.

The "Hamburg Agreement" is intended to end the breaking of fellowship that resulted from the Foreign Mission Board's defunding of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Ruschlikon, Switzerland, last year.

As the leaders reviewed events leading up to the defunding, "both parties increasingly recognized the extent of the damage caused by the decision, but they experienced by the grace of God forgiveness in Christ and reconciliation," the agreement stated.

European Baptists indicated their intention to work both with the Foreign Mission Board and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, the organization of Southern Baptist moderates, which now has at least eight missionaries, all former Foreign Mission Board missionaries, assigned to Europe.

FMB leaders reconfirmed an earlier trustee vote to the effect that the EBF's partnership with the CBF "would not adversely affect relationships with EBF." The Europeans said they would discourage competition in developing relationships with both bodies.

Both sides said that "wherever

possible" requests for career personnel and projects involving volunteer personnel in Europe should be arranged in consultation with Southern Baptist missionaries and European Baptist unions and/or the European Baptist Federation.

The session marked the first time since the Ruschlikon defunding that both sides have sat down together to discuss future work. The European Baptists wanted to wait until the Foreign Mission Board had elected a new regional vice president to take part in discussions. FMB trustees hurried the election of Samuel M. James as vice president for Europe, Middle East, and North Africa so the discussions could take place sooner, said John Jackson, FMB trustee chairman.

James attended the Hamburg meeting with Don Kammerdiener, FMB executive vice president, and Hal Lee, associate to the area director for Europe. Kammerdiener will become interim president on Nov. 1, following the retirement of President R. Keith Parks on Oct. 31.

FMB trustees Jackson, Skip Smith, and Bill Blanchard again told the European Baptists that the trustees have no "global agenda" to impose fundamentalist standards on Europe — an allegation made by Ballenger and Parker when they announced their retirements in a controversial press conference.

Jackson is pastor of First Baptist Church, Fairfield, Calif. Smith is chairman of the FMB's committee on Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa. He is pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Houston. Blanchard, vice chairman of the same committee, is pastor of First

Baptist Church, Soddy-Daisy, Tenn.

The agreement will be considered by FMB trustees at their Oct. 12-14 meeting and by the European Baptist Federation's executive council at its Sept. 28-Oct. 1 meeting. Leaders on both sides said they expect little trouble in securing the pact's endorsement.

A high point in the Hamburg session came on the morning of Sept. 12, when Jackson and Smith again apologized to the Europeans for how the Ruschlikon defunding was handled. The European leaders then expressed forgiveness. Trustees had spoken separately about this with European Baptist leaders earlier this year and expressed regret. But both sides agreed at Hamburg the time was right for a more complete reconciliation.

Other European Baptist leaders taking part in the consultation were: Theo Angeloff, president of the Baptist Union of Bulgaria; Peter Barber, general secretary of the Baptist Union of Scotland and EBF executive committee member; David Coffey, general secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and EBF executive committee member; Hans Guderian, home missions secretary, Baptist Union of Germany; Wiard Popkes, professor of New Testament of the Baptist Theological Seminary of Germany and trustee chairman of the Baptist Theological Seminary at Ruschlikon, Switzerland; and John Merritt, general secretary of the (English-speaking) European Baptist Convention and EBF president. Merritt is a Southern Baptist missionary.

Creswell writes for FMB.

Baptists answer Florida's call; apathy feared ahead

MIAMI (Compiled from Baptist Press reports) — Less than one week after the plea was issued, more than 1,000 Southern Baptist volunteers responded to a call to help South Florida residents recover from damages inflicted by Hurricane Andrew.

At least 1,056 workers answered the call for 1,000 volunteers to work during Labor Day weekend, according to registration recorded at the state convention's disaster relief command post in South Florida.

The Labor Day weekend teams joined a force of more than 1,500 Southern Baptist volunteers who had traveled in and out of the Miami area since the Aug. 24 hurricane struck.

Many of this first wave of volunteers prepared and served 80,000 meals a day to South Dade County residents. Others organized food and baby products in a distribution center, carried non-perishable food items to needy families, and provided child care.

A caravan of 18 Michigan Baptist men drove 29 hours and brought three semi-trailer trucks full of food and building supplies to help the hurricane victims in South Florida. Their effort was underwritten by \$20,000 raised by Michigan Baptists. For three days they

worked beside volunteers staffing the Ohio Baptist feeding unit located at the First Baptist Church of Perrine.

Seven men from North and South Dakota drove 49 hours, stopping only for gas and oil, to help Florida Baptists in their time of need, according to Norman Wagoner, state Brotherhood consultant for the Dakota Southern Baptist Fellowship. For the past five years, the Florida convention and the Dakota Fellowship have had a partnership relationship, which included the sending of many Florida Baptist work teams and resources to the two states.

"Why is the national media telling us the crisis is over?" asked volunteer Gary Amos of Virginia Beach, Va. "Why don't they tell us what it's really like?"

Amos recently spent a day with Virginia Baptist volunteers and Mi' Dailey, church and community ministries director of the Miami Baptist Association, searching piles of wreckage and twisted metal that were once mobile homes in several Homestead labor camps.

The group of volunteers met men, women, and children living among the ruins at the camps, without basic necessities. "They (See HURRICANE on page 9)

Former Mississippian Porch named Tennessee director

BRENTWOOD, Tenn. (BP) — James M. Porch, a native Mississippian and pastor in Tullahoma, Tenn., was elected executive director/treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention (TBC) Sept. 4.

Porch, 51, was elected by the TBC executive board and will succeed D.L. Lowrie who resigned to become pastor of First Church of Lubbock, Texas. Lowrie, Tennessee executive for three and a half years, leaves this month after announcing his resignation in May.

Porch was elected in a close secret ballot vote with 54% of the ballots cast. There were 78 votes (43-35) cast, with one abstention, and 21 absent of the 100-member board.

He will take office Nov. 1.

Porch made his profession of faith in Christ, was licensed, and ordained to the ministry at Pelahatchie Church, Rankin Association. He is a graduate of Mississippi College, and received master of divinity and doctor of theology degrees from New Orleans Seminary.

Pastorates, in addition to the Tennessee church, included churches in New Orleans, and in Yazoo County, Bogie Chitto, and Clinton in Mississippi.

He is married to the former Martha Lynn Sullivan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Sullivan of Nashville. The couple has two children: Scott Jackson, 21, and Terri Lynn, 16.



EYES OF THE STORM — A little girl clings to Military-style ready-to-eat meals distributed by South Carolina Baptists at a school in Homestead, Fla., where the eye of Hurricane Andrew passed. (BP photo by Paul Obregon)

State Disaster Relief serves over 50,000 meals to Andrew's victims

By Tim Nicholas

Mississippi Baptist Disaster Relief crewmen have helped serve more than 50,000 hot meals to victims of Hurricane Andrew, according to figures compiled by the Brotherhood Department of the MCB, which operates the disaster relief unit. And word was that some of the half dozen Baptist units would be staying in Florida until Thanksgiving.

A Mississippi team sent to south Dade County in Florida fed 40,325 meals in four days. The first crew, which went to Baton Rouge for three days, served just over 4,000 meals. And the third crew, in Florida, served 4,500 meals on their first day, Sept. 9.

Jerald Welch, who headed up the team in Florida which served Sept. 5-8, said the group worked alongside volunteers from Tennessee on the Tennessee Baptist unit, a field kitchen.

"We were pushed," said Welch of the work. "Trying to cook ravioli when trying to feed 10,000 people is hectic—especially since ravioli sticks to the pot so easily."

Welch said the Mississippi crew "gave 125 percent." He said one man told Welch he'd never opened so many cans in his life. Another, who helped barbecue 1,200 pounds of chicken, said he'd never be able to look at another chicken again. About 40% of the food was

served on line, the rest delivered by the Red Cross to other areas.

According to Welch, the Tennessee workers, when the Mississippians arrived, said they were an answer to prayer, since the Tennesseans were so exhausted and only had three trained workers.

The needs continue to be great, said Welch. He suggested that people not send clothes, but instead lumber and building materials, personal and sanitary items, cleanup workers, and trucks to haul stuff off. North Carolina Baptists sent a Ryder truck load of food and another group sent a load of ice which the Baptists distributed.

Surveying the area, Welch said "it's devastated mile after mile. One man who fought in a war said it looked like a war zone." Welch said the church where the Tennessee unit was set up, Glendale Baptist, was nearly destroyed by the hurricane. Not just the roof, but the rafters, too, were gone from the sanctuary.

"Most of the people who go to the church — their homes were destroyed, their jobs were destroyed. How are they going to be able to support a church or ministry there?" wondered Welch. He said the pastor said they would rebuild, but didn't know how much or how big.

Welch said the home of the son and daughter-in-law of a local minister was destroyed by the hurricane. They went back later and looters had scavenged what was left.

But there were special blessings, Welch said. A volunteer from Texas fell while helping unload a trailer. The paramedics said they thought he'd broken his back. The crew stopped the feeding line, had prayer for the man, and that evening he was back — bunged up — but feeling fine.

The third crew which was to return to Mississippi this week, consisted of Jim Didlake of the Brotherhood Department staff; Bill McCreary, Ripley; William Wright, Columbia; Bill Lee, Brandon; Charles Thornton, Crystal Springs; Charles Shaw and Jason Simpson, Eupora; and four from Tylertown: Steve Griffin, his son Scott, 15, Robert McCullough, and Tommy Roberts. Another team was being recruited to work in South Florida this week. The Sept. 12-18 team consists of: Maurice Flowers and Rod Smith, Laurel; Clay Moss and Wayne Burnett, Brandon; John Richardson, Benton; Glen Mullins, Hazlehurst; and Cooper DeLoach, Leland.

Nicholas is director of communications, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

17 BSSB employees named to management positions

By Linda Lawson

NASHVILLE (BP) — Seventeen employees of the Baptist Sunday School Board have been named to management positions in the office of church growth and programs, according to Gene Mims, vice president.

Church growth and programs, the largest of four areas of the board created in a recent restructuring, houses units which produce literature and other products and services for Southern Baptist churches.

Mims is responsible for the work of four divisions — church growth and Sunday School directed by Harry Piland, discipleship and family development directed by Roy Edgemon, church program support directed by Roland Maddox and worship and music, which presently has no director.

In the worship and music division, which includes the Genevox Music Group and the Church Music Ministries Department, Mims said a nationwide search is under way for a division director. He said persons currently employed by the board also will be considered.

Within the worship and music division, Mims named Mark Blankenship to become full-time director of the Genevox Music Group, the board's trade publishing unit. Blankenship, 49, has been interim director since September 1991 while continuing to hold a

management position in the Church Music Department.

Wesley Forbis, director of the Church Music Department, will continue in that role, though the name will change to Church Music Ministries Department.

In the church growth and Sunday School division, which includes the former Sunday School division and Church Administration Department, Mims announced four management appointments:

— Billie Pate, associate division director, will continue in that role.

— Joe Stacker, director of the Church Administration Department, will direct the Church Growth Leadership Department.

— Louis Hanks, manager of the youth curriculum section, will become director of the Youth-Adult Department, replacing Max Caldwell, who is retiring.

— Cos Davis, manager of the preschool program section, will direct the Preschool-Children Department, replacing Muriel Blackwell, who is retiring.

Mims named an associate director, two department directors and three section managers for the discipleship and family development division, which includes the former Discipleship Training, Family Ministry, and Student Ministry departments and the section responsible for Centrifuge and Crosspoint camps in the Church Recreation Department.

— John Kramp, supervisor of the adult editorial unit in the Discipleship Training Department, will become associate director of the division, a new position.

— Henry Webb, program design and planning coordinator in the Discipleship Training Department, will manage the new discipleship and family growth and administration section.

— Avery Willis, manager of the adult section in the Discipleship Training Department, will direct the new Discipleship and Family Adult Department.

— Gary Hawk, manager of the family enrichment section in the Family Ministry Department, will manage the discipleship and family magazines section, which will include periodicals such as Home Life, Mature Living, and Christian Single.

— Art Criscoe, director of the management support section in the Discipleship Training Department, will direct the new Discipleship and Family/Youth/Children/Preschool Department.

— Charles Johnson, director of the Student Ministry Department, will continue in that post, though the name will be changed to section.

In the church program support division, Mancil Ezell, director of the Church Media Library Department, will direct the newly created Church Program Services Department

to include the former Church Media Library and Church Architecture departments and the former Church Recreation Department except for the section that oversees Centrifuge and Crosspoint camps. Allen Adcox, senior manager of the inventory management/distribution system section, will direct the new Business Support Services Department. A director for the Marketing Services Department will be named at a later time.

The current managers of the black church development, language church development/new

work, and Hispanic development sections — Elgia Wells, Peter Kung, and Tito Fafasuli — will continue in their posts and report to Mims.

Mims said he expects to announce the structure below departments and personnel for most of the remaining management positions by the end of September.

"We're working as fast as we can to fill these positions with the best qualified people so that we can move forward in serving the churches," Mims said.

Lawson writes for BSSB.

First, Laurel, will host "fun"-planning session

First Church, Laurel, will host the conference, "How to Plan FUN Activities for Your Church," Sept. 24, at 7 p.m.



Nichols

The program, sponsored by the Discipleship Training Department, MCB, is for all ages, particularly teachers of children, youth, and adults, pastors and staffers, along with activities or recreation committee members,

social and youth committees, and senior adult leaders.

Robin Nichols, consultant in the Discipleship Training Department, will lead a session on how to plan homecoming and other major events, and one on how to use "new" games for all ages.

Two sessions will be led by Ronnie Joe Webb, minister of activities at the host church. The sessions are how to plan activities for all ages with or without an activities building, and how to use retreats and fellowships for all ages.

For details contact Nichols at the Baptist Building, phone 968-3800.



Jackson County Baptists in Russia

A 12-member group from Jackson County Association made a mission trip to Nizhny, Novgorod, Russia, on July 14-30. The Mississippians subdivided into three teams, each of which ministered to a separate Russian Baptist church. The Jackson Countians were part of a larger, 120-member group sponsored by International Crusades. Professions of faith seen by the larger group numbered over 11,000, while the Mississippi group saw 654 professions in their work areas. Group members included (not in order) Arthur and Linda Middleton, and Kathline Henderson from Kreole Avenue Church; Jerry and Wanda Lennop, Herman and Judy Benefield, and Phillip Clark from Franklin Creek Church; Bill and Billy Barton from First Church of Vancleve; Joe Madison and J.D. Cutrer from First Church, Pascagoula. Information on future mission trips can be obtained by calling J.D. Cutrer at (601) 762-4443.



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Mississippi-born suit program begins third decade of giving

By William H. Perkins Jr.

Everywhere he goes, people call him "The Suit Man."

Over the past 30 years, Cooper Walton of Jackson has logged thousands of miles traveling across the state collecting money for men's suits to ship to pastors in Southern Baptist mission fields, many of whom couldn't otherwise afford to purchase such clothing.

He's gearing up now for the 1992 campaign in October.

"Every chance I get, I go talk about the suit program. When someone offers to pay me an honorarium for speaking, I would ask them to make the check out to the suit program," he said.

The retired Farmers Home Administration employee said he got the inspiration for the suit program in about 1963, while visiting with a pastor in Denver, Colorado.

"The pastor didn't have a decent suit to wear. I came home and started working on the idea for the suit program," he said.

The Pioneer Missions Committee raised enough money that first year for 57 suits, which were given to pastors in Montana churches. Last year, 155 suits were donated by Mississippi Baptists to pastors in Utah, Idaho, and northwest states.

Along the way, pastors in Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Washington, Nevada, and on foreign mission fields have also received suits. Almost 3,200 suits worth \$320,000 have been purchased since the program's inception.

The program also accepts suits from widows who want their deceased husband's clothing to be donated to the pastors, Walton said.

The program has been so successful, in fact, that a number of other Southern Baptist state conventions have used it as a model for their states, according to Paul Harrell, director of the Brother-

hood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, which assumed responsibility for managing the program in 1968.

"Cooper Walton has been one of the elements that has made this ministry the success that it is today," Harrell said.

Many recipients of the suits have expressed how they feel about the program.

"I will always be reminded of your labor of love represented by the suit," said Robert Schreckenberger, pastor of a Baptist mission in Twin Falls, Idaho.

"This is my first new suit. It feels nice to wear a suit especially made with me in mind," said Gabriel Ledesma, pastor of a Baptist mission in Brewster, Washington.

Walton's enthusiasm has spilled over into other areas of Baptist life, too. He is a trustee for the Mississippi Baptist Children's Village, and he served a seven-year term on the Executive Committee

of the Southern Baptist Convention as well as a term as first vice-president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. In addition, he is a deacon and Sunday School teacher at Broadmoor Church in Jackson.

"I just take advantage of opportunities," he said.

Even as people across the state — and across the country — lauded Walton for his Christian leadership, he made one simple request.

"Don't make this story about me, because it's not Cooper Walton doing this. Some things I just couldn't help; it was the Lord leading me to do it. These are all things that God has endorsed in the hearts of men," he said.

Persons interested in making donations to the suit program can contact the Brotherhood group in their church or the Brotherhood department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. The telephone number is (601) 968-3800.



Cooper Walton (right), known around the state as "The Suit Man," presents the first contribution for the 1992 suit program to Paul Harrell, director of the Brotherhood Department at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

N.C. college plans school of divinity

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. (BP) — Calling it a natural, maybe inevitable, growth process, trustee leaders of Gardner-Webb College added a school of divinity during an Aug. 27 meeting on campus.

Robert L. Lamb, long-time faculty member and former chair in the department of religious studies and philosophies, was named dean of the new school by Gardner-Webb President M. Christopher White.

"The entrance of this institution into theological education at the graduate level is a natural, maybe inevitable, growth process," White said. "We have been in theological education for decades," the president observed, noting Gardner-Webb has had several thousand graduates in

Christian ministry.

"And, we have built a faculty widely recognized for excellence — in both academics and Christ-

ian commitment," White said. Gardner-Webb is an institution of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

Jackson resigns Phoenix pastorate

PHOENIX (BP) — Richard Jackson, pastor of the largest Baptist church in the West and three-time candidate for the SBC presidency, announced his resignation to members of North Phoenix Baptist Church Sept. 13.

Jackson, 54, reportedly will retire but plans to stay on as long as a year to help the 21,000-member congregation through the transition to a new pastor. He told the congregation he was not resigning to go to another church.

Jackson has been pastor of the Phoenix church since 1967. From the \$26,680 in 1967 sent to the Cooperative Program, North Phoenix has since sent \$1 million annually from 1986-89 and currently 10% of its undesignated offerings to the CP, including \$560,305 in 1991.

In June the church baptized the 20,000th person since Jackson became pastor 25 years ago.

He was an unsuccessful candidate for SBC president in 1977, 1980, and 1988.

Drought, war in Somalia claim thousands of lives

By Art Toalston

NASHVILLE (BP) — Each day in Somalia 1,000 to 5,000 people die of starvation — and the human tragedy in the drought- and war-devastated African country is unfolding faster than world hunger agencies can respond.

The Foreign Mission Board has channeled more than \$115,000 in hunger and relief funds to workers in Kenya and Yemen aiding Somali refugees since March 1991. Board officials now expect to send far greater amounts of aid in the coming months.

"Somalia is the most desperate, intense place of human suffering in the world today," said Graeme Irvine, president of World Vision International, which is scheduled to launch its first two feeding stations in Somalia Sept. 4.

A 10-member World Vision team, including several Americans, will staff the centers in Baidoa, a city of some 100,000 people in central Somalia where an estimated 300 to 700 people die daily of starvation.

"They're going in at extreme risk, knowing the dangers involved," said Jim Newton, spokesman at World Vision's U.S. headquarters in Monrovia, Calif., who recently visited the country currently ablaze in a multi-sided, terror-filled civil war. Men and youth with automatic rifles — some 20,000 to 30,000 in Somalia's largest city, Mogadishu, alone — rob relief caravans at will in the now-lawless country the size of California.

The Christian relief agency has budgeted \$10.8 million for food distribution and agricultural development for Somalia during the coming year — four times its 1992 outlay for ministry there.

"As many people die every day in Somalia as in a month in

Yugoslavia, despite the constant media attention to the Yugoslav conflict," Irvine stated.

Two years of warfare in this 99%-plus Muslim country has placed an estimated 1.5 million of its 8.3 million people, mostly unarmed women and children, "in direct threat of starvation," according to Bread for the World, an anti-hunger lobby based in Washington. Several million more Somalis are hungry and malnourished.

The lobby's Africa policy analyst, Sharon Pauling, is asking "why greater thresholds of suffering and horror must be reached in Africa before camera crews arrive and decisive action is taken by the international community."

"We have two years' supply of weapons," one Somali fighter has been quoted as saying, "but only one year supply of people."

"In the major cities fruits and vegetables are more expensive than grenades," one Christian worker noted.

War has terminated government services, according to reports, and closed all schools, except those operated by mosques for study of the Koran.

Additionally, the strife made refugees of an estimated 1 million Somalis. Up to 500,000 Somalis have crossed into Ethiopia and 300,000 into Kenya while some 65,000 have sailed in rickety boats across the Red Sea to Yemen, according to estimates.

Just to meet minimum needs for the refugees, some \$94 million in relief funds is needed this year, according to the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Southern Baptist missionaries in Kenya have tried to ease the suffering of some of the thousands of

Somalis who have fled south to Kenya searching for food and safety. For several months medical missionary David Sorley has worked a few days each week in three refugee camps north of his home in Nairobi. The camps, set up by the United Nations, shelter more than 120,000 Somali refugees.

Sorley, from St. Paul, Minn., has assisted Canadian Baptists in treating the camps' sick as well as working with Somali children left severely malnourished by the drought and civil war.

"We're giving them a mix of wheat, sugar, oil, and some pea flour. We premix the food to keep others from selling it in the market," Sorley said. "That's the tragedy even in the refugee camps. The best-nourished know how to use the system — and the weak ones fall through the cracks. Some of the weak can't even get into the lines and so you have to go tent to tent searching for them and that's a very labor-intensive process."

Somalia is 99.9% Muslim, with fewer Christians per capita than any other African country, according to researchers. Less than three dozen North American missionaries were assigned to the country and there are just 1,000 Somali Protestants and 2,000 Roman Catholics among the country's 8 million people.

For additional information about the crisis in Somalia, contact the Foreign Mission Board, Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230, (804) 353-0151; World Vision, 919 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016, (818) 301-7782; or Bread for the World, 802 Rhode Island Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20018, (202) 269-0200.

Toalston writes for BP. Donald D. Martin, who writes for FMB, contributed to this report.



More than a pastor

Tho Ngoc Dang, pastor of the Vietnamese Church in Biloxi, dedicates young Hong Phuong in recent ceremonies at the church. For the Vietnamese immigrants who have come to the Mississippi gulf coast in search of a better life, Dang is not only a pastor but a trusted friend and an important spiritual member of their families. His ministry reaches out to new Americans who struggle daily to put their lives back together after an often-traumatic departure from their home country and its distinctive culture. (BP photo by Joe Clark)

Blue Mountain prof heads West for 30-year reunion

Doug Bain of the Blue Mountain College faculty was speaker in August for the 30th anniversary of the Baptist church in Miles City, Montana. He organized the church 30 years ago and was its first pastor.

Of his return to Montana after a 30-year absence, he reports, "I took to them a bound and painted history of the mission's first year — a beautiful volume of both text and pictures. I found a few of the people I had known there before, not many."

"I got to visit the ranches where I worked (he partially supported himself while planting the church by working on ranches; Mississippi Baptists also contributed). Also I visited with John Moore, author of *The Breaking of Ezra Riley*, a highly acclaimed Christian novel."

There were 126 present for the Sunday celebration. The executive secretary of Montana Baptists was there, as well as the area director of missions.

Snow was falling the August day he left Billings.

Speakers lift single lifestyle

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — "I've been single all my life and I've enjoyed it. At my house, when I'm ready to go, everybody's ready to go," Ron Churchill told more than 2,200 single adults attending the Sept. 4-7 Single Adult Conference at Ridgecrest Conference Center.

Churchill, pastor of First Church of Plant City, Fla., was the featured speaker at the conference, one of four held over the Labor Day Weekend. A total of 5,443 attended simultaneous conferences at Ridgecrest, Glorieta Conference Center, San Diego, and St. Louis.

In citing positives about being single, Churchill emphasized he was not putting down marriage. "I think most people ought to be married. There are positives and

negatives of any life stance."

He challenged single adults to commit themselves to being ministers where they are, to reach out and touch the lives of other singles and to be affirmers rather than critics.

"We find our completeness in Jesus Christ, not by finding someone to marry," he emphasized.

He urged singles to be affirmers, to build up other people, and not be evaluators who tear others down.

"The healing antidote for rejection is affirmation," Churchill said. "We nurture other people when we tell them what is good and noble and honorable in them. One affirmer is worth 1,000 evaluators."

"Listen to the people who want you to succeed," he urged. "Think about the people who are for you."

SBU trustees dismiss chancellor Sells after he fails to respond to invitations

By Bob Terry

BOLIVAR, Mo. (BP) — In 1965, James L. Sells joined Southwest Baptist University (SBU) in Bolivar, Missouri, as director of academic affairs. Three years later he was named president of the school. Sells was named chancellor of the university in 1979 and continued to serve as the institution's chief executive officer.

On May 31, 1991, Sells retired as CEO of the university but continued his role as chancellor, serving under a contract running through August 1993.

However, that relationship came to a sudden and dramatic conclusion Sept. 3 when the SBU board of trustees announced they could "no longer work together (with Sells) in the best interests of the university."

In a press release handed out to

reporters following a five-hour closed-door meeting, the trustees announced, "Dr. James L. Sells has been terminated as chancellor of Southwest Baptist University effective immediately. This action specifically revokes any and all authority or license previously given to Dr. Sells to be associated with the university or to use the university's name in any manner or nature whatsoever."

According to SBU attorney Gary Lynch, the action was approved by the trustees by a vote of 31-1.

Word & Way, Missouri Baptists' newsjournal, learned the action to sever relationships with Sells was taken Aug. 20 during a special called meeting of trustees. It was reaffirmed in the Sept. 3 meeting with only two dissenting votes.

Trustee chairman Wayne Gott said trustees desired to "work something out" with Sells and invited him to two different meetings. However, Sells refused to meet with the trustee executive committee.

The announced reason behind the action was the trustees' conclusion that Sells made "a deliberate attempt... to interfere with the proper working of the board of trustees to find and hire a president of the university."

Privately, several trustees wondered why Sells refused to meet with the trustee executive committee. "He could have kept us from taking this action. We could have worked something out so he could have left with dignity," said one.

Terry is editor, Missouri WORD & WAY.

HOUSE TOPS

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light: and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

September 17, 1992

HOUSE TOPS is a supplement to the Baptist Record and is produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.



Eddie and Mary Ann Bryant



Marvin and Susan Howard

Outstanding Small Church Pastors Named

Eddie Bryant, Tuckers Crossing, Ellisville (Jones) and Marvin Howard, Mt. Zion, Smithdale (Franklin) have been selected as the Outstanding Small Church Pastors of the Year for the Mississippi Baptist Convention. These men were selected for noteworthy and meritorious achievement in pastoral ministry and/or denominational service. Only pastors of churches with fewer than 300 members are eligible for the award. In 1987 the Southern Baptist Convention directed the Church Administration Department of the Sunday School Board in Nashville to

recognize annually outstanding small church (single staff) pastors. Each state convention chooses its own outstanding pastors and nominates them for the convention-wide award. Leon "Tip" Harwood of Libby, Mont., and Ron Geiger of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., were chosen as the Southern Baptist Convention outstanding small church pastors for 1992.

Bryant and Howard were nominated for the convention-wide award by the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Julius Thompson is director.

Bryant, a Smith County native, has served the Tuckers Crossing church since 1978. He and his wife Mary Ann, have two daughters, Sharla and Sheree. "Eddie has given consistent and faithful pastoral leadership. Eddie's participation in the work of the Jones County Baptist Association has been admirable and exemplary," says Jones County Director of Missions Allan Nix, who nominated Bryant for the Mississippi award. Nix said, "His wife is a model pastor's wife. She has served on a number of associational committees and is presently Acteens director on the associational WMU council. Finally, Eddie's commitment to the work of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and the SBC is solid and without question." Nix listed in the nomination letter that Bryant had served in at least 12 positions in Jones Association since 1978. The Tucker's Crossing church has a resident membership of 231 with a Sunday School enrollment of 191 and average Sunday School attendance of 92.

Howard, a Kentucky native, has served Mt. Zion for

nine years. He and his wife Susan have three children (one son in college and preschoolers Matthew and Margaret). The late J.B. Gray, who nominated Howard, said "Marvin has exhibited excellent pastoral leadership and associational involvement. He has served a smaller rural church in a very rural association for nine years. During this time he has served or is serving as Discipleship Training director, Sunday School-worker, VBS director, Pastors' Conference president, and youth leader. He has led his church and our association in

nursing home work, senior adult ministries, and mission trips. His commitment to Discipleship Training leadership and missions over these nine years ranks him as our leading pastor. He constantly participates in revivals, Bible studies, and youth functions at the request of area churches." The Mt. Zion church has a total membership of 140 with a Sunday School enrollment of 128 and average attendance of 60. HT

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CALVARY	825.00	795.13	1,620.13	NEW HOPE	150.87	375.70	526.57	NEW PROVIDENCE	1,635.00	865.00	2,500.00	FRIENDSHIP	354.36	218.12	572.48	MORNING VIEW	50.00	273.80	323.80
CLIFF TEMPLE	13,135.29	5,910.32	19,045.61	NEW LIBERTY	1,016.49	1,482.01	2,498.50	NEW ZION	6,881.16	4,921.02	11,802.18	GRACE MEMORIAL	18,186.56	9,174.81	27,361.37	NEW HOME	1,343.20	1,054.07	2,407.27
CLOVERDALE	7,141.74	16,244.87	23,386.61	NEW PROVIDENCE	2,414.71	2,964.00	5,378.71	PEARL VALLEY	3,207.51	2,082.39	5,289.90	GRACE TEMPLE	193.49	50.00	243.49	POPLAR SPRINGS	991.67	157.00	1,148.67
CRANFIELD	1,953.90	1,463.77	3,417.67	OAK GROVE	507.00	554.00	1,061.00	PILGRIMS REST	1,650.00	3,233.95	4,883.95	GULFPORT HEIGHTS	939.19	221.00	1,160.19	PROVIDENCE	1,516.51	.00	1,516.51
FBC NACHEZ	12,574.53	23,876.06	36,452.59	OLD TOWN	2,554.40	2,813.60	5,368.00	PINE BLUFF	.00	290.00	290.00	HANDSBORO	13,731.62	10,469.03	24,200.65	RIVERHILL	2,162.96	374.00	2,536.96
IMMANUEL	7,074.44	6,266.66	13,341.10	PARKER	1,003.13	200.62	1,203.75	POPLAR SPRINGS	2,009.00	3,116.78	5,125.78	HIGHLAND	941.63	901.24	1,842.87	SALEM	734.90	5,509.00	6,243.90
MORGANTOWN	14,396.15	9,061.45	23,457.60	PILGRIMS REST	80.00	40.00	120.00	ROCKY HILL	271.41	680.93	952.34	KITTITAKE	3,316.02	1,220.67	4,536.69	SHILOH	1,118.99	848.94	1,967.93
NEW HOPE	379.87	152.27	532.14	PITTSBORO	3,141.21	4,025.61	7,166.82	SARDIS	1,310.93	4,856.64	6,167.57	KOREAN MISSION	300.00	300.00	600.00	TRINITY	11,482.04	11,340.45	22,822.49
PARKWAY	33,037.86	15,506.56	48,544.42	PLEASANT HILL	3,105.27	3,157.75	6,263.02	SHADY GROVE	3,467.02	4,579.29	8,046.31	LAKESHORE	136.44	106.74	243.18		39,134.22	32,416.19	71,550.41
SOUTHERN HILLS	1,531.18	918.06	2,449.24	PLEASANT RIDGE	400.00	320.00	720.00	SMYRNA	1,095.00	1,909.50	2,904.50	LIZANA	1,856.24	735.59	2,591.83	JACKSON			
SPRINGFIELD	2,107.29	1,016.08	3,123.37	POPLAR SPRINGS	767.41	1,020.06	1,787.47	SPRING HILL	3,001.84	1,599.30	4,601.14	MICHAEL MEMORIAL	14,174.32	1,725.89	15,900.21	ARLINGTON HGTS	13,450.30	9,223.53	22,673.83
STANTON	5,804.47	3,024.86	8,829.33	ROCKY BRANCH	480.00	2,279.26	2,759.26	STRONG HOPE	7,668.48	5,082.50	12,750.98	NEW HOPE	8,675.45	9,286.88	17,962.33	BELLE FOUNTAIN	8,601.69	4,096.92	12,698.61
WASHINGTON	15,764.82	8,953.82	24,718.64	ROCKY MOUNT	256.90	310.10	567.00	SYLVANIA	2,613.36	3,095.00	5,708.36	NORTH HILLS MSN	669.50	195.00	864.50	BELLEVILLE	940.06	2,007.73	2,947.79
	116,690.22	77,727.69	294,417.91	SABOUGLA	4,773.45	3,332.04	8,105.49	WESSON	10,524.26	15,016.80	25,541.06	NORTH LONG BEACH	3,442.08	5,162.88	8,604.96	CALVARY	7,171.91	5,174.72	12,346.63
ALCORN																			
ANTIOCH	2,075.81	2,405.15	4,480.96	SAREPTA	628.13	1,334.03	1,962.16	WESTSIDE	.00	71.00	71.00	OLIVET	499.30	200.00	699.30	CAMBRIDGE	1,285.55	1,567.76	2,853.31
BETHLEHEM	4,042.55	1,975.49	6,018.04	SECOND CALHOUN	651.40	1,272.00	1,923.40	ZION HILL	2,527.00	1,071.00	3,598.00	PASS ROAD	200.00	1,000.00	1,200.00	EAST MOSS POINT	10,673.57	10,775.23	21,448.80
CALVARY	3,671.76	2,728.57	6,400.35	SHILOH	970.85	6,951.58	7,922.43	COVINGTON	2,595.26	2,701.07	5,296.33	PERKINSON	11,535.61	3,256.03	14,791.64	EASTLAWN	3,847.00	5,370.95	9,017.95
COUNTY LINE	480.00	1,390.00	1,870.00	SPRING HILL	2,075.52	2,212.66	4,288.18	CAHOUN	12,004.85	9,933.85	20,938.70	POPPS FERRY	322.52	1,799.94	2,122.46	EMMANUEL	7,676.72	4,462.50	12,339.22
DANVILLE	203.39	202.99	406.38	TURKEY CREEK	160.00	434.91	594.91	COLD SPRINGS	16,854.96	10,432.27	27,287.23	RIVERSIDE	1,473.31	750.00	2,223.31	ESCATAWPA	17,104.33	11,592.31	28,696.64
EAST CORINTH	6,944.52	5,907.08	12,851.60	WESTSIDE	2,842.70	2,275.29	5,117.99	COLLINS	6,702.34	7,223.54	13,925.88	ROBINSON ROAD	4,252.17	3,341.63	7,593.80	FBC GAUTIER	46,915.21	36,889.53	83,784.74
FBC BIGGERSVILLE	2,919.31	4,241.36	7,160.67	CARROLL	131.32	350.98	482.30	FBC MT OLIVE	6,000.00	1,250.00	7,250.00	ROBINWOOD	1,216.29	686.22	1,894.51	FBC HELENA	4,723.00	1,996.59	6,719.59
FBC CORINTH	57,096.15	17,947.40	75,043.55	BLACK HAWK	1,012.01	1,749.80	2,761.81	LEBANON	608.77	.00	608.77	SHARON	959.24	1,625.00	2,584.24	FBC MOSS POINT	24,395.31	26,782.38	51,177.69
GLENDALE	6,994.00	3,397.00	10,391.00	CARROLLTON	17,717.64	10,085.66	27,803.30	LEAF RIVER	600.00	1,250.00	1,850.00	SHILOH	1,555.24	243.00	1,798.24	FBC OCEAN SPRINGS	17,510.03	6,248.86	23,758.89
HINKLE	2,000.12	2,105.00	4,105.12	CENTERVILLE	1,412.37	1,202.94	2,615.31	LONE STAR	1,595.49	1,733.07	3,328.56	SHORELINE PARK	798.72	2,060.79	2,859.51	FBC ORANGE GROVE	2,216.11	2,298.61	4,514.72
HOLLY	5,558.18	6,977.32	12,535.50	COILA	325.00	500.00	825.00	MT HOREB	2,699.47	2,940.21	5,639.68	SUCCESS	1,292.03	3,334.35	4,626.38	FBC PASCAGOULA	76,218.34	43,086.42	119,304.76
JACINTO	251.23	494.44	745.67	COILA	325.00	500.00	825.00	NEW HOPE	1,023.54	2,263.90	3,287.44	TRINITY	682.00	350.00	1,032.00	FBC VANCELEAVE	25,214.78	18,194.12	43,408.90
KEMPS CHAPEL	698.78	1,085.95	1,784.73	HARMONY	432.00	655.00	1,087.00	ORA	2,878.85	1,969.89	4,848.74	VIETNAMESE MSN	200.00	.00	200.00	FORT BAYOU	1,545.85	216.52	1,762.37
KENDRICK	1,481.75	967.98	2,449.73	LIBERTY	2,218.10	2,874.96	5,093.06	ROCK HILL	2,878.85	1,969.89	4,848.74	WEST GULFPORT	923.11	1,151.00	2,074.11	FBC FOUR MILE CREEK	4,681.40	2,888.96	7,570.36
KOSSUTH FIRST	4,470.72	4,567.04	9,037.76	MALMAISON	1,474.00	2,254.04	3,728.04	SALEM	10,563.44	4,559.00	15,122.44	WOOLMARKET	14,026.84	4,136.54	18,163.38	FRANKLIN CREEK	6,786.50	985.54	7,772.04
LIBERTY HILL	644.00	.00	644.00	MCCARLEY	2,037.00	972.00	3,009.00	SEMINARY	5,274.35	6,772.85	12,047.20		436,680.54	253,669.25	690,349.79	GRACELAND	380.00	3,075.46	3,455.46
LONE AOK	.00	800.00	800.00	MT OLIVE	5,957.19	4,310.26	10,267.45	UNION NORTH	.00	264.00	264.00					GRIFFIN STREET	3,810.97	3,110.82	6,921.79
LOVE JOY	.00	217.00	217.00	MT PISGAH	1,946.90	1,083.94	3,030.84	UNION											

PROGRAM GIVING REPORT

y 1—August 31



Total	CP Gifts	All Other Total	CP Gifts	All Other Total	CP Gifts	All Other Total	CP Gifts	All Other Total	CP Gifts	All Other Total										
2,274.00	13,611.10	9,229.93	21,841.03	TRINITY	617.88	1,953.38	2,571.26	BETHEL	4,982.96	1,743.62	6,626.58	MONROE	1,505.90	1,121.87	2,627.77	UNION CHAPEL	421.00	1,747.50	2,168.50	
3,015.80	6,146.83	6,267.17	12,414.10	TUCKERS CROSSING	1,157.34	649.29	1,806.63	BIG SPRINGS	747.00	745.86	1,492.86	ATHENS	999.02	586.46	1,585.48	WALNUT	1,388.34	375.00	1,763.34	
323.80	4,890.38	1,620.00	6,510.38	UNITY	14,171.18	4,111.33	18,282.51	BOGUE CHITTO	4,523.25	2,728.09	7,251.34	BARTAHATCHIE	4,387.47	3,516.42	7,903.89	WEST MARKS	5,870.30	9,402.50	15,272.80	
2,407.27	20,523.02	11,998.87	32,521.89	WEST ELLISVILLE	2,147.39	2,982.39	5,129.78	BROOKWAY	2,162.63	668.05	2,830.68	BECKER	320.89	615.31	936.20		180,100.89	154,760.56	334,861.45	
1,118.67	21,899.56	13,355.74	35,255.30	WEST LAUREL	1,810.88	888.22	2,699.10	CALVARY	5,643.78	3,606.79	9,250.57	BETHEL	204.22	205.21	409.43					
1,516.51	9,873.47	3,598.77	13,472.24	WILDWOOD	131,968.85	62,130.21	194,099.06	CLEAR BRANCH	1,202.00	2,469.50	3,671.50	BIGBEE	11,022.00	4,449.57	15,471.57					
2,536.96	451,077.25	299,341.52	750,418.77					EAST LINCOLN	357.77	602.28	960.05	CASON	8,393.61	5,891.49	14,285.10					
6,243.90				KEMPER	355.00	710.00	1,065.00	EASTHAVEN	25,339.70	13,365.32	38,705.02	CENTER HILL	3,075.00	3,581.00	6,656.00					
1,767.93	1,498.18	965.58	2,463.76	BAY SPRINGS	.00	65.00	65.00	FAIR RIVER	11,238.12	6,610.55	17,848.67	CENTRAL GROVE	32,205.42	37,601.43	69,806.85					
22,822.49	3,244.66	2,912.21	6,156.87	BLACKWATER	3,276.03	6,450.25	9,726.28	FBC BROOKHAVEN	79,883.09	200,856.73	280,739.82	FBC ABERDEEN	742.55	586.90	1,329.45					
71,550.41	935.10	.00	935.10	BLUFF SPRINGS	1,398.59	2,422.40	3,820.99	FRIENDSHIP	5,460.93	3,824.31	9,285.24	FBC AMORY	896.10	4,308.04	5,204.14					
22,673.83	3,500.00	3,117.25	6,617.25	CENTER RIDGE	15,500.00	2,273.11	17,773.11	GUM GROVE	1,020.49	853.08	1,873.57	FBC GATTMAN	1,008.53	112.04	1,120.57					
10,696.61	1,240.22	782.52	2,022.74	CORINTH	1,418.60	3,039.06	4,457.66	HALBERT HEIGHTS	858.47	964.47	1,822.94	FRIENDSHIP	121.00	134.32	255.32					
2,947.79	5,200.35	5,630.89	10,831.04	DEKALB	1,374.95	491.00	1,865.95	HARMONY	7,140.00	10,862.91	18,002.91	GRACE CHAPEL	22,994.16	15,325.36	38,319.52					
12,346.83	1,223.30	1,886.00	2,909.30	LIBERTY	3,517.56	3,867.74	7,385.30	HEUCKS RETREAT	1,083.00	271.50	1,354.50	GREENWOOD SPRINGS	372.65	372.55	745.10					
2,633.31	1,600.00	1,975.00	3,575.00	SALEM	4,637.68	4,550.35	9,188.03	HOLLY SPRINGS	755.99	1,263.02	2,019.01	GREGORY CHAPEL	22,994.16	15,325.36	38,319.52					
12,448.80	13,389.00	6,911.30	20,300.30	SCOOBA	777.00	1,181.99	1,958.99	LITTLE BAHALA	18,564.99	10,147.50	28,712.49	HAMILTON	1,875.00	1,678.00	3,553.00					
9,017.95	1,166.40	591.80	1,758.20	UNION	280.00	1,611.00	1,891.00	MACEDONIA	978.41	1,280.00	2,258.41	LIBERTY	22,994.16	15,325.36	38,319.52					
12,339.22	570.70	245.00	815.70	VARDAMAN	3,202.14	1,981.48	5,183.62	MISSION HILL	5,955.86	5,897.84	11,853.70	MEADOWOOD	1,020.00	2,232.00	3,252.00					
28,696.84	488.00	300.00	788.00	WALHALLA	835.50	1,737.80	2,573.30	MOANS CREEK	4,615.24	4,928.20	9,543.44	NEW HOPE	3,488.00	3,866.00	7,094.00					
33,784.74	34,055.91	26,317.13	60,373.04	WEST KEMPER	120.49	.00	120.49	MONTGOMERY	7,501.29	13,268.93	20,770.22	NEW PROSPECT	.00	75.00	75.00					
6,719.59				LAFAYETTE	351.00	180.00	531.00	MT MORIAH	3,261.81	2,090.91	5,352.72	ROCKY SPRINGS	5,737.90	6,061.96	11,799.86					
33,157.69	.00	46.00	46.00	ANCHOR	2,584.87	1,422.22	3,987.09	MT PLEASANT	8,288.19	6,227.08	14,515.27	SMITHVILLE	1,886.34	2,384.20	4,270.54					
23,766.89	10,312.00	7,120.85	17,432.85	CLEAR CREEK	720.00	305.00	1,025.00	NEW PROSPECT	14,201.95	5,229.19	19,431.14	SOUTH NETTLETON	8,529.24	3,239.11	11,768.35					
4,514.72	10,877.54	6,791.22	17,668.76	COLLEGE HILL HEIGHTS	2,080.51	2,940.96	5,021.47	NEW SIGHT	4,432.54	5,992.29	10,424.83	SOUTHIDE	1,852.76	1,198.84	3,051.60					
19,286.76	848.00	948.00	1,796.00	DELAY	259.59	400.00	659.59	PEARL HAVEN	2,368.75	752.18	3,120.93	SPLUNGE	1,230.90	2,302.10	3,533.00					
1,762.37	211.40	90.80	302.20	DENMARK	3,417.91	2,922.58	6,340.49	PHILADELPHIA	1,488.34	1,599.13	3,087.47	TRINITY	1,230.90	2,302.10	3,533.00					
7,550.26	5,240.87	4,842.75	10,083.62	FBC ABBEVILLE	795.25	671.00	1,466.25	PLEASANT GROVE	8,867.57	7,848.12	16,715.69	VICTORY	1,124.74	444.81	1,569.55					
7,772.04	48,929.75	48,243.92	97,173.67	FBC OXFORD	.00	1,350.43	1,350.43	PLEASANT HILL	5,748.50	5,773.56	11,522.06		193,245.47	176,841.40	370,086.87					
3,455.46	13,814.07	6,941.51	20,755.58	HARMONITOWN	678.32	1,217.41	1,895.73	RUTH	1,040.86	2,119.12	3,159.98									
6,921.59	1,994.15	3,656.53	5,652.68	NEW ELBETH	1,798.00	5,288.00	7,086.00	SHADY GROVE	6,529.82	5,750.52	12,280.34									
17,020.20	1,296.94	1,371.96	2,668.90	NEW HOPE	2,190.77	3,020.54	5,211.31	SOUTHWAY	1,386.95	1,407.37	2,794.32									
28,785.31	6,603.14	3,986.00	10,589.14	NEW PROSPECT	7,614.62	5,187.26	12,801.88	TOPIAW	1,884.79	1,741.64	3,626.43									
10,233.90	39,654.44	29,940.31	69,594.75	NORTH OXFORD	.00	863.00	863.00	UNION	3,558.57	2,845.03	6,403.60									
1,991.04	371.00	366.00	737.00	OLD UNION	845.58	2,258.48	3,104.06	UNION HALL	8,000.55	8,272.15	16,272.70									
6,932.46	513.50	4,821.69	5,335.19	PHILADELPHIA	61,932.71	64,688.85	126,621.56	WELLMAN	295,510.38	364,608.04	660,118.42									
727.56	5,024.39	4,074.34	9,098.73	SHILOH	1,000.00	1,935.15	2,935.15													
1,486.68	1,704.92	965.78	2,670.70	TAYLOR	4,305.00	2,374.00	6,679.00	ANTIOCH	13,877.94	5,393.12	19,271.06									
2,646.70	4,922.46	3,386.87	8,309.33	TEMPLE HEIGHTS	32,745.63	15,897.25	48,642.88	ARTESIA	3,041.48	2,102.00	5,143.48									
798.00	2,174.12	3,401.00	5,575.12	TULA	2,625.00	1,955.40	4,580.40	BETHEL	4,833.58	2,166.00	6,999.58									
5,685.39	783.00	1,767.80	2,550.80	UNION WEST	13,174.37	15,094.76	28,269.13	BORDER SPRINGS	5,316.83	3,763.00	9,079.83									
18,486.86	4,544.14	10,758.52	15,302.66	YELLOW LEAF	964.96	1,220.85	2,185.81	CANAN	1,129.09	2,729.03	3,858.12									
1,594.00	164,641.04	149,742.79	314,383.83		4,096.68	2,683.76	6,780.44	COMMUNITY	2,851.39	4,075.02	6,926.41									
2,895.00				LAMAR	2,427.94	1,157.16	3,585.10	EAST END	27,745.39	3,734.46	34,119.85									
4,249.26	1,797.40	959.33	2,756.73	BAKTERVILLE	15,098.75	9,936.10	25,034.85	EASTVIEW	.00	292.00	292.00									
17,837.09	7,633.82	4,033.05	11,666.87	BELLEVUE	70,190.94	33,289.81	103,480.75	FAIRVIEW	79,910.89	32,395.03	112,305.92									
151.48	8,992.53	10,735.07	19,727.60	CALVARY	4,185.41	5,126.86	9,312.29	FBC COLUMBUS	120,687.34	141,172.14	261,859.48									
12,745.17	955.49	152.75	1,108.24	COALTOWN FELLOWSHIP	6,011.10	5,656.06	11,667.16	FRIENDSHIP	1,336.50	429.62	1,766.12									
1,794.04	1,755.00	1,558.00	3,313.00	CORINTH	564.49	1,694.76	2,259.25	IMMANUEL	11,823.24	6,362.87	17,986.11									
14,913.20	125.00	25.00	150.00	FAITH	5,223.53	2,748.68	7,972.21	KOLOLA SPRINGS	5,316.65	2,776.81	8,093.46									
5,080.56	7,369.70	3,598.99	13,368.69	FBC LUMBERTON	450.00	1,770.00	2,220.00	LOWMEDES ASSOC	.00	5,899.28	5,899.28									
39,699.49	18,163.74	21,049.83	40,213.57	FBC PURVIS	928.61	1,767.91	2,696.52	MCBEE	240.00	160.00	400.00									
5,537.49	3,726.03	4,936.41	8,662.44	FBC SUMRALL	21,360.63	52,119.18	73,479.81	MT VERNON	17,360.63	12,578.02	29,938.65									
48,683.04	2,144.91	349.00	2,493.91	GOOD HOPE	57,511.90	42,740.57	100,252.47	MT ZION	23,038.81	10,435.42	33,474.23									
1,286.35	2,097.61	463.74	2,561.35	GREENVILLE	1,061.00	782.43	1,843.43	NEW HOPE	985.11	575.00	1,560.11									
1,006.00	17,067.00	11,314.84	28,381.84	HICKORY GROVE	7,232.88	5,677.46	12,910.34	NEW SALEM	5,062.81	7,107.50	12,170.31									
14,182.26	2,097.61	463.74	2,561.35	IMMANUEL	6,148.28	4,587.84	10,736.12	PLEASANT HILL	8,872.00	2,761.22	11,633.22									
8,427.53	1,118.22	2,833.42	3,749.64	MILITARY	137.00	210.00	347.00	PLYMOUTH	828.73	.00	828.73									
350.00	2,073.61	3,399.56	5,473.17	OKAHOLA	35,770.02	22,782.04	58,552.06		344,463.41	248,330.64	592,794.05									
1,910.00	7,917.66	3,239.45	11,157.11	OLCH	11,825.00	12,346.64	24,171.64													
189.75	3,982.31	2,419.56	6,381.87	ORAL	17,399.48	8,856.71	26,256.19													
910.00	1,321.91	641.36	1,963.27	RICHBURG																

Cooperative Program Giving Report Continued...

CP Gifts				All Other Total				CP Gifts				All Other Total				CP Gifts				All Other Total				CP Gifts				All Other Total											
HILLCREST ROAD 544.85 696.75 1,241.60								TUSCUMBIA 297.00 2,252.00 2,549.00								NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP 50.00 .00 50.00								YELLOW CREEK 1,364.80 2,232.74 3,597.54								CALVARY 11,096.87 9,897.00 20,993.87							
JACKSON LANDING ROAD 799.16 342.50 1,141.66								WHEELER 3,580.33 4,348.85 7,929.18								NEW ZION 2,253.43 2,317.07 4,570.50								BEECH GROVE 735.48 1,333.48 2,068.96								CRYSTAL RIDGE 1,813.00 2,365.00 4,178.00							
JUNIOR GROVE 7,305.15 5,709.44 13,014.59								RANKIN 769.57 1,584.57 2,354.14								OAK GROVE 2,652.98 5,149.98 7,802.96								BETHESDA 105.00 185.00 290.00								DRY CREEK 1,415.99 156.00 1,571.99							
NEW HENLEYFIELD 869.14 773.65 1,642.79								ANDREW CHAPEL 6,140.80 2,051.88 8,192.68								PALESTINE 800.00 2,007.81 2,807.81								FAYETTE 3,027.00 1,860.51 4,887.51								EAST LOUISVILLE 5,423.88 5,028.40 10,452.28							
NEW PALESTINE 13,784.80 7,887.76 21,672.56								ANTIOCH 2,533.90 2,891.63 5,425.53								PINE GROVE 2,574.53 3,565.38 6,139.91								FELLOWSHIP 376.00 243.00 619.00								ELLISON RIDGE 556.51 785.55 1,342.06							
OAK HILL 1,380.97 2,607.51 3,988.48								BAREFOOT SPRINGS 3,488.71 5,576.57 9,065.28								PINOLA 750.00 1,871.00 2,621.00								HERMANVILLE 690.28 422.06 1,112.34								ENON 4,857.04 2,003.76 6,860.80							
OLIVE 2,707.00 4,084.00 6,791.00								BETHEL 34,024.23 18,077.38 52,101.61								PLEASANT HILL 686.19 24.29 710.48								PATTISON 473.18 513.17 986.35								EVERGREEN 7,883.05 8,423.97 16,307.02							
PARKVIEW 1,198.05 1,374.95 2,573.00								BRIAR HILL 12,583.45 3,573.15 16,156.60								POPLAR SPRINGS 4,293.65 6,732.40 11,026.05								FBC LOUISVILLE 74,725.38 56,356.72 131,082.10								GOOD HOPE .00 2,530.37 2,530.37							
PEARL RIVER ASSOC .00 28.00 28.00								CASTLEWOODS 6,160.35 3,248.10 9,408.45								SHIVERS 1,705.34 1,844.53 3,549.87								GUM BRANCH 309.99 353.00 662.99								HARMONY 4,596.87 3,818.81 8,415.68							
PINE GROVE 16,291.65 9,596.75 25,888.40								CATO 12,583.45 3,573.15 16,156.60								SILOAM 3,516.64 3,218.17 6,734.81								PLEASANT HILL 1,057.00 580.00 1,637.00								LIBERTY 3,359.77 1,320.08 4,679.85							
ROSELAND PARK 26,204.60 15,310.00 41,514.60								CENTRAL 111.00 2,251.50 2,362.50								STONEWALL .00 635.00 635.00								PORT GIBSON 6,083.26 4,425.77 10,509.03								MACEDONIA 3,765.56 3,287.79 7,053.35							
SPRING HILL 1,680.40 1,150.72 2,831.12								CLEAR BRANCH 2,068.75 2,781.81 4,850.56								STRONG RIVER 385.23 860.00 1,245.23								RED LICK 75.00 75.00 150.00								MARS HILL 833.79 906.12 1,739.91							
STEEP HOLLOW 5,217.60 2,851.53 8,069.13								CLEARVIEW 12,197.29 9,072.39 21,269.68								WEATHERSBY 787.60 1,004.57 1,792.17								SHILOH 2,804.12 14,255.74 17,059.86								MURPHY CREEK 7,340.51 3,900.83 11,241.34							
UNION 29,620.35 17,554.43 47,174.78								CONCORD 4,815.21 2,478.32 7,293.53								168,240.23 146,794.98 315,035.21								UNION CHURCH 2,751.64 3,339.69 6,091.33								NOXAPATER 17,606.53 6,851.72 24,458.25							
UNITY 7,686.01 6,759.56 14,445.57								CONCORD 4,815.21 2,478.32 7,293.53																UNITY 643.00 483.50 1,126.50								OAK GROVE 652.40 599.60 1,252.00							
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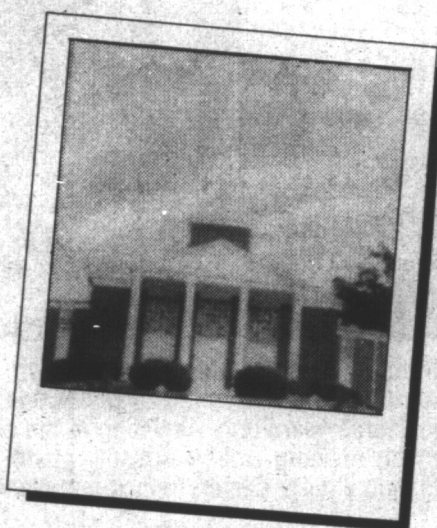
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Thursday, September 17, 1992

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

Letters to the editor



Needs prayer support

Editor:

The influential, fast-growing, and highly unchurched metropolitan area of Denver, Colo., is the destination for the McRaney family. The Southern Baptist Convention has only one church for every 40,000 persons. To help combat this problem, my wife Sandy, Blakney, Hadley, and I will be moving to south Denver in late September to plant our lives and a new impacting Southern Baptist church.

We will be working in partnership with the Colorado Baptist Convention, Denver Association of Southern Baptist Churches, and Riverside Church in Denver. However, due to the high cost of conducting ministry in Denver and the financial constraints of the CBC, Denver Association, and Riverside Church, we are in need of additional ministry prayer partners.

The prayers and financial investments from Mississippi Baptists can help provide much of the foundation for the future ministries of this church. It takes time, prayer, and finances to move a lost person from being a seeker of God to being a follower of Christ.

Presently we are looking for economical housing in the south Denver area and seeking churches and individuals to be partners with us and the Colorado Baptist Convention in this vital new work. If you would like some additional information, we can be contacted at 1808 Singing River St., Pascagoula, MS 39567, (601) 762-7810, or through Parkway Church, Natchez.

Thank you, Mississippi Baptists for the supportive role you have and will play in the McRaneys' ministry.

Will McRaney Jr.
Pascagoula

Handle lottery with CARE

Editor:

We have formed an organization named C.A.R.E. (Citizens Advocating Responsible Economics) which is dedicated to defeating the lottery in the election to be held on Nov. 3.

The ballot will contain the names of the presidential candidates. Next will be the ballot for Congress in several districts. Next will come legislative races in some parts of the state. Finally, there will be eight Constitutional Amendments on the ballot. The Lottery Amendment will be the first Constitutional Amendment listed.

We are attempting to organize each county with a layman as chairman and a preacher as congregational chairman. The chairman will try to organize the county, precinct by precinct. The congregational chairman is urged to get himself a committee of preachers, black and white, to go out and get every church in each county to put on a church drive to beat the lottery. Toward this end we have printed several thousand Church Coordinators Handbooks. We would like for every church in Mississippi to be involved.

The headquarters of C.A.R.E. are located at 625 North State Street, Jackson, and our phone number is (601) 355-1888. We can send you whatever literature you may need.

We feel that we can beat the lottery if Christian people throughout the state will organize and vote. We would ask that as many preachers who will do so to please preach sermons against gambling and the lottery and that all eighteen-year-olds be encouraged to register by Oct. 2, and the new people in the churches be encouraged to register and that all church people be encouraged to vote and vote "NO" on Amendment Number 1, which is the lottery.

Here we are right in the middle of the Bible Belt. There is no rea-

son that we cannot win this battle if we give it our best effort. Please help us.

The first regional meeting of C.A.R.E. will be held Sept. 22, 7 p.m., at the Peddler's Inn in Hattiesburg.

William B. Alexander
Chairman, C.A.R.E.
Jackson

Missionary news

Editor:

The days and months have gone by so fast as we begin our eleventh month of furlough. We were scheduled for our furlough to end on Oct. 21, 1992, but have been given an extension until the end of February 1993. This extension was granted so that Gerry could continue her studies at Mississippi State University. April 1, 1992, was a "Hallelujah Day" at our home as Gerry was accepted into the Ph.D. program at MSU in the counsellor education program!

Bill has been quite busy with speaking engagements in Mississippi and Alabama. He has travelled 24,000 miles and spoken 70 times before 9,700 people. He has also served as an enlistment associate with the Missionary Enlistment Department of the Foreign Mission Board.

Many of you prayed for Robyn when she was so very ill a few months ago. She has recovered completely and we appreciate your concern and prayer support for her.

June 27, 1992, was a happy and eventful day! Bill performed the marriage of Lydia to Steve Kilgough at Shades Mountain Baptist Church, Birmingham.

Your prayer support for us over the years has been most appreciated and during these days of challenge and opportunity please continue to lift us up in prayer. May the Lord continue to bless you in all your ministries!

Bill & Gerry Colston
Starkville

Autumn Fest at Gulfshore cancelled

The Senior Adult Autumn Fest Retreat scheduled for Gulfshore, Oct. 12-16, has been canceled. Registrations were not sufficient to support the event.

This fall conference has been conducted for the past three years on a cost recovery basis as an addition to the spring events which are supported by the Cooperative Program. Therefore, it was necessary to reach a certain number in order to have the fall event.

Persons who have registered will receive full refunds of deposits made. Planners of the conference regret any inconvenience caused by the cancellation. A good conference with outstanding leaders had been planned. The lack of response may indicate a need for a change in format or length for the fall of 1993.

The spring retreats for 1993 are scheduled for May 17-21, 24-26, and 27-29.

Postmark Houston SBC housing requests Oct. 1

NASHVILLE (BP) — Hotel reservations for the 1993 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting should be mailed Oct. 1, according to convention manager Richard P. Rosenbaum Jr.

The meeting will be June 15-17 in Houston's George R. Brown Convention Center.

"New this year will be an

attempt to assist groups of 50 or more who wish to stay in the same hotel," Rosenbaum said.

Requests for group housing forms should be directed to the Housing Information Office, SBC Executive Committee, 901 Commerce Street, Suite 750, Nashville, TN 37203, telephone (615) 244-2355.

New Zion observes 150th

New Zion Church, Weir (Choctaw Association), will observe its 150th anniversary Oct. 18.

The church is seeking previous pastors to participate in its anniversary celebration, and is also looking for photos and memorabilia concerning the church's history.

For more information, contact Bob Mamrak, New Zion Church, Rt. 1, Box 166, Weir, MS 39772, (601) 285-3633.

Steven Curtis Chapman

Susan Ashton

Al Denson

Out Of The Grey

Hosted by Randy Matthews of Compassion International
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH 7:30 PM
JACKSON, MS • MISSISSIPPI COLISEUM

Ticket Prices: \$14.00 Reserved Seating • \$12.50 Group (for 10 or more)

Tickets available at the Coliseum Box Office, Baptist Bookstore, Maranatha Bookstores, Be-Bop Records Locations and The Music Box.

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To charge by phone call or for ticket information call: (601) 353-0603

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Send a cashiers check or money order payable to: JAXFEST, Jackson Coliseum, P.O. Box 892, Jackson MS 39205.

All orders must include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with \$2.00 for postage and handling.

For festival information call: (601) 925-5112

alive93

Just for the Record



Youths of Enterprise Church, Clarke Association, made a mission trip to Holiday Lakes Baptist Church, Angleton, Texas, in July. Holiday Lakes is a mission of Second Church, Angleton. The Enterprise youths conducted Vacation Bible School, community visitation, and evening Teen Time. Three professions of faith resulted, the church reports. Participating in the trip are pictured, front row, left to right: Scott Smith, Heather Bullock, Annette Bullock, Leslie Melton, Kelly Melton, Mandy Bullock, and Danny Bullock, pastor; back row: Betty Purvis, Bobby Purvis, Brent Overby, Amy Boggan, Diana Gandy, and Jerry Smith.



Royal Ambassadors of Ingomar Church, New Albany, took a 5-mile "Nature Walk for Missions," collecting \$925 in pledges. One half of the money was donated to World Hunger Relief; the other half was given to the building fund of a sister church. Pictured, left to right, are: front row, Josh Smith, Dustin Cobb, Mark Gray, Chandler McMillen; middle row, David Fooshee, Nicky Rooker, Shane Wise, Justin Fitzgerald; back row, Jim Smith, Tim Taylor, Kevin Fooshee, Ronnie Raines, and Buddy Dixon.

Harrisville Church, Harrisville, held its revival Aug. 2-9, and reports four professions of faith. James E. Messer of St. Elno, Ala., was the evangelist; Rick Greene of Jackson led the music. Dennis E. Allen is pastor, Harrisville.

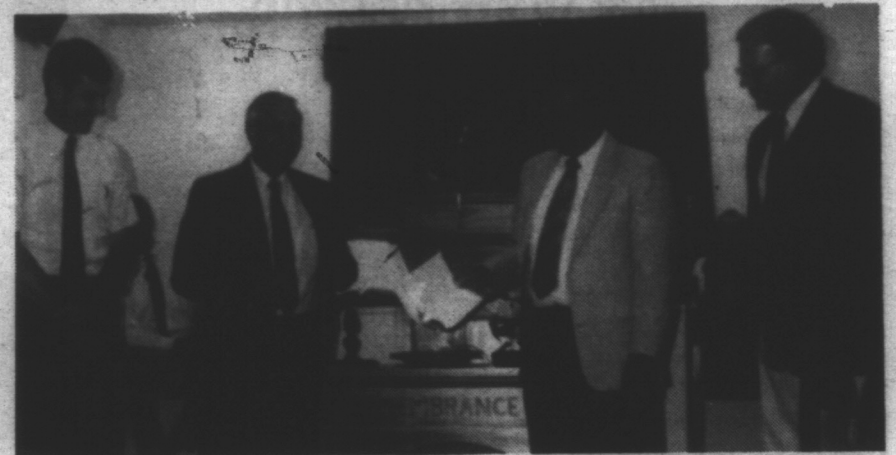
J.B. Hays, pastor of First Church, Tutwiler, recently baptized three new members of the same family: Cinche Smith, mother George Anna Smith, and father Ronnie Smith. Hays also serves part-time at Union Chapel.

The Lisembys, an evangelistic team from Kingsland, Ark., will be in concert at the Cloverdale Church, Natchez, Sept. 18, 7 p.m. They will lead a service of gospel music and praise at Cloverdale Church. Weyland Gauntt is pastor.

First Church, Sharon, Laurel, has passed a resolution calling for the restoration of Clarke College. The church based its decision on the belief that the closure of the school violates the Mississippi Baptist Convention Constitution and disregards Clarke's years of service. The Sharon Church pledged support for the school upon its reopening. Nelson Crozier is pastor.

Correction

In its Sept. 3 issue, the Baptist Record published a photo of the ribbon-cutting ceremony at a new Homes of Grace ministry in Pascagoula, the Bethany Family Outreach Center. The outline incorrectly identified the participants in that ceremony. It should have read: "Pictured, left to right, are Elaine Kerr, United Way director; Bob Dowdy, chairman, Homes of Grace board of directors; John Wilkinson, past president, board of trustees, First Church, Pascagoula; Tommy Williams, chairman, Bethany Committee; and Billy Barton Jr., Homes of Grace executive director."



Glendale Church, Alcorn Association, recently held a note-burning celebration for the retirement of the \$60,000 debt on its Family Life Center, begun three years ago. Assisting in the ceremony were, left to right, David Graham, deacon; Bobby Cossey, pastor; Glen Mathis, chairman of deacons; and Jimmy Carter, long-range planning committee member.



The youth group of Mantee Church, Mantee, went this summer to Ozark, Mo., to conduct Vacation Bible Schools and Backyard Bible Clubs in the area of Eastern Gate Baptist Church. There were six professions of faith during the week. Participants in the trip shown are: left to right, front row, Emily Pate, Paige Harrington; second row, Laura Stone, Jennifer Crump, Hailey Stevens, Dewyatt Winter, Jennifer Brand, Chris Chandler, Emily Harrington, Brian Tillman; third row, Marc Redwine, James Lee Carpenter, Leigh Stone, Taylor Gibson, and Landon Clark. Accompanying the youths were (not pictured) Lou Harrington, Linda Stevens, Ann Stone, and Malcolm Pinion, pastor.

Homecoming FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of SHARON

Laurel, MS

September 20, 1992

Guest Speaker: Rev. James McCall

You are cordially invited to join our congregation on this very special day!

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:40 a.m. Homecoming

12:00 noon Dinner in Fellowship Hall

1:30 p.m. Singspiration

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"Evangelism and Church Growth
through Sunday School"

September 19, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

First Baptist Church, Tupelo

Lunch - \$2.00

Audience: Pastors/Staff/Sunday School Leaders

Leader: Charles Lowery, Director

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Harland Creek Church, Coxsburg, held its first annual "Old-Fashioned Night" July 19. Some members arrived on horseback. Music and fellowship followed the service. Pictured is Hazel Adams, a member of Harland Creek Church. Roger Richardson is pastor.

Southwestern Seminary hosts lectures, pastors conference

Pastors from across the United States will take part in Southwestern Seminary's 1992 Pastors Conference Oct. 14-16.

The conference will focus on the Sermon on the Mount and apocalyptic themes in Revelation. Bruce Corley, dean of the school of theology and Calvin Miller, professor of communications and ministry studies and writer-in-residence, will lead the studies.

The Huber L. Drumwright Lectures in New Testament will feature Robert H. Mounce, who will lecture on "Major Apocalyptic Themes in Revelation."

Mounce retired in 1991 as senior pastor of Christ Community Church in Walnut Creek, Calif. His book on Revelation, *What Are We Waiting For?* was released in March.

Pastors may register by calling the seminary at (504) 923-1921, ext. 2440, or by writing to the Department of Continuing Education, Southwestern Seminary, P.O. Box 22207, Fort Worth, TX 76122-0207. Registration is \$45 per person before Oct. 7 and \$50 after. The fee includes all conference material and lunch and dinner on Thursday.

First, Gautier, observes 50th year

First Church, Gautier, will celebrate its 50th anniversary Sept. 19-20.

A pageant, "Brush Arbor Beginnings," will be presented Sept. 19, 7 p.m. On Sept. 20, First Church will celebrate "Fifty Years of Lifting Up the Name of the Lord,"

with a goal of 500 in Sunday School. During the morning worship service, banners made by several women in the church, bearing names of Christ, will be presented.

Billy R. Williams, pastor, will preach the anniversary sermon.

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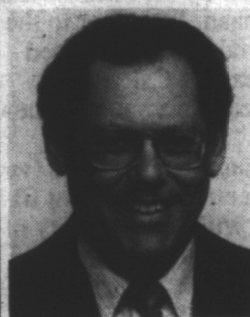
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JANUARY BIBLE STUDY PREVIEW CLINICS

Sept. 30, Oct. 1, Oct. 2

featuring



James E. Harvey
BSSB — Nashville
(Adult worker leader)

Judy Wooldridge
BSSB — Nashville
(Youth worker leader)



Sept. 30th — Blue Mountain College
Oct. 1st — Mississippi College
Oct. 2nd — William Carey College

Each clinic is scheduled from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

Lunch will be served complimentary of the colleges.
Study course credit will be given to individuals who attend entire seminar.

For more information, call Larry Salter, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Sunday School Department, (601) 968-3800.

Thursday, September 17, 1992

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9

Revival Dates

Oak Grove, Shubuta: Sept. 20-25; 7 nightly; John Edwards, Meridian, evangelist; Novel Albritton, Quitman, music; Billy Whitekar, pastor.

Cloverdale, Natchez: Sept. 21-25; 7 nightly; Steve Purvis, Natchez, evangelist; Dale Little, director of missions, Adams-Union Association, music; Weyland Gauntt, pastor.

Crosby (Mississippi): Sept. 18-20; 7 nightly; Sunday, 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Ladell Blanton, Foxworth, evangelist; Buddy McElroy, Liberty, music; Waylan Owens, pastor.

Hickory Grove, Lauderdale:

Sept. 20-23; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Malcolm Lewis, evangelist; Clarence Qualls, pastor.

New Hope, Meridian: Sept. 18-20; Fri.-Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, homecoming, 10:30 a.m.; dinner in Family Life Center, noon; singing, 1 p.m.; no night services; Danny Hood, Kathleen, Fla., evangelist; Robert Goodman, Baton Rouge, La., music; Mike Everett, pastor.

First, Lauderdale: Sept. 20-23; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; 7 nightly; Danny Lanier, evangelist; Chris Lee, Meridian, music; Mike Russell, pastor.

Calvary, Pascagoula: Sept. 20-

23; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; 7 nightly; J. Garland McKee, director, evangelism Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, evangelist; Price Harris, Shreveport, La., music; George Berger, pastor.

East Heights, Tupelo: Sept. 20-24; Walter K. Ayers, evangelist; Brad Bickham, music; Steve F. Bain, pastor.

Peoples, Ripley: Sept. 20-27; Sunday, regular services; Mon.-Sat., 7 p.m.; Clifford Rice, Campbell, Mo., evangelist; Ron LaCaze, Vicksburg, music; Tony B. Monk, pastor.

FBC, Houston, celebrates 150th year

First Church, Houston, will observe its sesquicentennial Sept. 19-22.

The church was founded Sept. 22, 1842, with 21 charter members. In honor of 150 years of its existence, the church will begin sesquicentennial events on Saturday, with a musical program at 4 p.m. There will be a covered dish dinner at 6 p.m., followed by a brush arbor meeting at 7 p.m., with the pastor arriving in a horse-drawn buggy.

Activities will continue through Tuesday, with a pageant depicting the history of the church presented at 7 p.m.

Kemper DOM Carlisle dies September 11

Wayne L. Carlisle, director of missions for Kemper Association, died of cancer Sept. 11. Funeral services were held Sept. 13 at Barham Funeral Home in Meridian.

Carlisle, 50, had served Kemper Association since November 1990. Prior to that time, he was pastor of Corinth Church, Kemper Association. In 1990, he served as president of the Kemper Association's Pastors' Conference.

He retired from the Mississippi Air National Guard after 23 years as computer operations supervisor.

He is survived by his wife, Carol McPhearson Carlisle.



HURRICANE

From page 3

really don't have enough food," said Dailey. "They have a few staples, but they need flour, pinto beans, and other supplies."

Dailey said he was concerned "after the glitz" is gone, Southern Baptists will forget about the needs in the area. "This is not a short-term project."

Cause of their frustration, Dailey said, is the media giving the picture everything is under control since the military arrived in South Dade County. "That is not the way it is."

Brenda Forlines, church and community director of the state convention, said she fears this

relief effort will be like hunger crises in the past. "As soon as the plight of the residents is off the news, people will stop giving," she said.

Supplies needed include: adult diapers, baby diapers, formula and supplies, charcoal, cereal, candy, cleaner, bleach, dry milk, flashlights, flour, insect repellent, plastic bags, potatoes, flour and rice in two-pound bags, shampoo, sugar, toilet paper, and others.

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First Church, Columbus, celebrates 160th anniversary

First Church, Columbus, will observe its 160th anniversary Oct. 11.

Former staff and members are invited to return to celebrate the history and future of the

church.

For more information, contact the church at P.O. Box 829, Columbus, MS 39703, (601) 328-3915.

Bobby Douglas is pastor.

Life and Work

Depending on the Spirit



By Milton Burd
1 Corinthians 2:1-5, 7-13

The lessons for this month were designed to help build witnessing skills. Every skill is important in becoming an effective witness, and this lesson helps us to understand that witnessing does not depend entirely on the individual. Witnessing depends on the power of the Holy Spirit. Witnessing becomes a partnership between the individual and the Holy Spirit. An example of this is Acts 8 in which the Holy Spirit directed Philip to the Ethiopian eunuch. Look at the results. The Scripture this week is 1 Corinthians 2. Let's look at Paul's comments on this partnership in witnessing.

Rejecting human power (v. 1). Paul precedes this verse with a quote from Jeremiah 9:24. It reads, "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord." Paul's words were a reminder to the Corinthians that he did not use eloquence (excellence of speech) to win them with the gospel. In fact, Paul acknowledged that he was not a trained speaker (2 Cor. 11:6). And he continued to say that he did not use superior wisdom (or cleverness with words) to persuade them with the testimony of God. Instead, he depended on the power of God and the power of the message itself. Many Christians have a fear about witnessing to others. The fear is removed when they realize that God's power (the Holy Spirit) is a partner in witnessing. Paul totally rejected human power and relied on the power of the Holy Spirit.

The message of the cross (v. 2). The message of a Christian witness is the simple yet profound message of the cross. Paul preached "Christ and him crucified!" This was his message in Corinth, in Ephesus, and everywhere he preached. This should be the theme of every Christian witness.

Depending on the Spirit's power (vv. 3-5). Effective witnesses depend on the power of the Holy Spirit and not on their own power. Paul used these thoughts in verses 3-5 to convey this truth. He did not want the people at Corinth to base their faith on his wisdom and skillful words. He came with feelings of weakness and fear. It is difficult to imagine Paul with these feelings, but Paul's point was that effective witnessing comes from the power of the Holy Spirit and is not based on how a person feels. Fears can be overcome by God's power. God can use Christians with all their fears to become witnesses through the power of the Holy Spirit. So faith should be founded on God and not on man's wisdom.

Depending on the Spirit's revelation (vv. 7-11). Paul spoke of God's secret wisdom that is hidden from the world. This wisdom is hidden because the world lives in darkness and cannot see it or find it. But God's wisdom is revealed to believers and to the lost who believe the gospel message. God's wisdom is "Christ and him crucified." This message is discovered through eyes of faith. God's saving work does not have to be a mystery. His work is on behalf of human beings. God's purpose is to redeem persons through Christ. Christians can discover and share God's message when they depend on the Holy Spirit.

Depending on the Spirit's guidance (vv. 12-13). Christians can not only depend on the Holy Spirit to provide power and to reveal God's message, but they also can depend on the Holy Spirit to guide them. Paul spoke of words taught by the Holy Spirit — spiritual truths that lead to faith in Christ. This is just the opposite of the spirit of the world. Christians have been given God's Spirit. Christians can become effective witnesses when they team up with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit supplies the power, wisdom (message), and guidance. The fear of witnessing is overcome by this relationship with the Holy Spirit. Utilize all the skills possible that help in witnessing, but remember to always depend on the Holy Spirit. Rely on his power. Follow his guidance. Share "Christ and him crucified."

Burd is minister of education, First Church, Cleveland.

Bible Book

Visions of future glory



By R. David Raddin
Micah 4:1-7; 5:2-4

Hope is found in the Lord. Hope for today and for the future comes in Jesus. The key to finding hope is turning to the Lord. He wants us to have personal relationship with Christ. Out of our relationship with Him, we can find life and peace. He is there for you and me today as we give him our lives.

Restoration by God (4:1-7). The literal translation of "in the last days" is "the working out of the days" or "in the after part of the days." God works now, has worked in the past, and will work in the future to fulfill his Word. Victory is the Lord's. He will reign for eternity as King of kings and Lord of lords. Those persons who have personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior will be with him in his glorious kingdom.

Micah envisioned a day when persons from many nations will say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob" (v. 2). These people will come to worship the Lord. God's reign over the earth will end war and bring peace. Instruments of war will become instruments of peace as God will "settle disputes for strong nations far and wide" (v. 3). The Scripture says many people, not all people, will come to the Lord. Some people will not believe in him. God will establish his kingdom and rule his people.

God's glorious restoration will come. How does he need to restore your life today? To be among those who will be with him for eternity, you must first come to Jesus. To live as a Christian in God's way, you may need to hear him judge a part of your life, change your ways, and be restored.

Restoration by a coming One (5:2-4). "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel...." (v. 2). The small town of Bethlehem, part of the larger area known as Ephrathah, was chosen by God over Jerusalem or any other place to be the birthplace of the Messiah. David was called out of Bethlehem to be king; now the King of kings would be born there. The Messiah "belonged to the house and line of David" (Luke 2:4). Through Jesus, God's promise to David that "your throne will be established forever" (Samuel 7:16) was fulfilled.

Verse 3 seems to point to the birth of the Messiah. Micah goes on to share the nature of the coming messianic kingdom. "His greatness will reach the ends of the earth" indicates his power and authority over all the world. He will unite the remnant of Israel (3b). He will care for his people. Verse 5 begins, "And he will be their peace."

God can bring peace to your life and mine. He can bring peace to our nation and our world. His peace comes through his reign. When someone else besides the Lord is in control, peace can only be temporary. Everlasting peace comes as life is given to the lordship of the Prince of Peace, Jesus.

What a message we share, that Jesus has come as Savior to all who will accept him. "Joy to the world, the Lord is come." The prophecy of the Messiah was fulfilled in Jesus. We who have personal relationship with Christ go to share with others how he has redeemed and restored our lives.

Micah was given visions of a glorious future. The future will be glorious for all who come to Jesus as Savior. He restores his children in the midst of the struggles of this life. One day we who know him will be with him in heaven, praising him for all of eternity. What a glorious future!

Raddin is pastor, First Church, Yazoo City.

Uniform

Joshua, a new leader



By Margaret H. Rogers
Joshua 1

Joshua is known as the successor to Moses. He is the man who, in the providence of God, had the privilege of fulfilling the promise of God made 400 years earlier to Abraham. This book is named after its leading character, Joshua. Where the book of Deuteronomy ends, the book of Joshua begins, with the 12 tribes still camped on the east side of the Jordan River. The Talmud (earliest Jewish traditions) claim Joshua wrote his own book except the final section about his funeral, which is assigned to the son of Aaron, Eleazar. Others think that Samuel may have shaped or compiled the material of the book. However, there is no sure knowledge of who the author was. The book was written sometime before 1000 B.C. The theme of the book is the establishment of Israel in the Promised Land. The book of Joshua shows that God was true to his promise. God had promised his people a land, and the book of Joshua tells about the entry and settlement of the land.

God's commission to Joshua (Joshua 1:1-2). Joshua had been the military leader in Israel. He played an important supportive role during Moses's leadership. He was one of two adults who left Egypt to live long enough to enter Canaan, a privilege he won by his total faithfulness to God. Why did God give this difficult assignment to Joshua? He commissioned him to take up the post of leadership after Moses' death and lead the people across the Jordan into the Promised Land.

First, God chose Joshua for this position because he was prepared. He had already come on the scene 40 years before the call. He was of the tribe of Ephraim and the son of Nun. He was Moses' personal minister, the attendant at the time Moses went up to the mountain of God, Sinai. Even in the worship time of Moses, Joshua was in attendance.

Second, Joshua was given this leadership position because of his faithfulness. When Moses sent the 12 spies into Canaan, most of the spies (10 of them) were of the opinion that they could not go in and take the land. The inhabitants were giants. Two of the spies did not agree with the report. These two were Joshua and Caleb. They begged the people not to rebel against the Lord in unbelief.

Joshua was ordained by Moses and also by God. This man had a record of faithful service and strong faith. Now the time had come when he was to take up the reins of leadership and lead the Hebrews into Canaan. Just prior to the death of Moses, a census was taken and it was disclosed that all who had left Egypt had died except Caleb and Joshua. All those of unbelief had passed away and the new generation could enter Canaan.

The land is identified; God's support is promised (vv. 3-5). For some 40 years Moses had been the dominant figure in Israel. Now Joshua was vested with the authority of leadership. Being a leader demands more than character, experience, and preparation; the leader's relationship to God is crucial. Joshua had all the basic spiritual resources, for he had the promise of God's stated purpose: "I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised."

Joshua also had the promise of God's presence, "I will never leave you or forsake you." God had committed himself to be with his servant, and to take on himself the burden of bringing success to the task.

The challenge to prepare (vv. 6-11). God challenged Joshua to be strong and courageous. Neither discouragement nor fear were to influence Joshua to hesitate or disobey. He was to live in close relationship to God, and victory would be assured.

Life's problems, difficulties, disappointments, etc. should motivate Christians to be more courageous. They should be more faithful in carrying out tasks for God since he has promised his presence. Christians can serve with the realization that God will give resources commensurate with the responsibility as he did for Joshua.

Rogers is a member of Salem Church, Collins.



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James Richard Duell
Mrs. Richard Y. Duell
Harvey Durham
Mrs. Jackie Niemeyer
Mr. Carl Eckert
Ms. Elizabeth Eckert
Mrs. L. C. Edwards
Mr. & Mrs. Rufus Graves
Mrs. Minnie Edwards
Mrs. M. E. Hill
Mrs. Viola Edwards
Mr. & Mrs. Donald E. Perkins
Patricia Egger
Mr. & Mrs. Ferrell Rigby
Mrs. Mattie Lois Eiland
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry L. Barber
Ms. Elizabeth H. Browning
Mrs. Rachel C. Browning
Evan Ellington
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Rawson
Mrs. Eva Ellington
Mr. & Mrs. J. Sam Lackey
Mr. & Mrs. F. C. Hobgood
Betty Jo Watson Elliot
Mr. & Mrs. W. M. Sheppard
Mr. & Mrs. J. B. Coleman Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Harry C. Hall
Mr. & Mrs. James M. Pentecost
Chaplain Theophilus Engell
Mr. & Mrs. F. C. Hobgood
Cal. A. T. Engell
Mr. & Mrs. Wally Vance
Grace Helen Ewing
Mr. & Mrs. E. K. Merritt
Mrs. William R. Rodgers
Amanda Faler
Mrs. Kent Boltevar
Hayes Parish
Mr. & Mrs. E. L. Betros
Elton Farrah
Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Dixon
Mr. Earnell Pitts
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Crowe
Mrs. Ardelle Fletcher
Friendship SS, FBC Cleveland
Yale Street Baptist Church
Mark Foshee
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence McCullar
Mr. & Mrs. Lowell Wood
Mrs. Fowler
Mr. & Mrs. Buddy Neal
Mrs. George Fox
Mr. & Mrs. R. B. Ross
Mrs. W. O. Franklin
Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Haley
Mrs. Helen W. Woodall
Mr. Ralph Turnbo
Aubrey Freeman
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hewitt
Mr. H. G. Frost
Southern Chevrolet, Inc.
Mrs. Lillian Fulgham
Billie Jo Ashley
Norman Jean Wilcott
David Galsel
Jimmy and Kathy Wilson
Mr. Keith Michael Gandy
First Baptist Church
Mrs. Louise Gast

Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Causey
Mr. & Mrs. W. D. Griffin
Bill Gaston
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Barber
Mr. Charles Gibson
Mr. & Mrs. A. K. Bobb
Mrs. James E. Stevens
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest L. Barlow
Mr. E. B. Gladney
Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Wallace
Virgie Grace
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Nelson
Mr. Ruby Lee Granger
Mrs. Jewell M. Bowman
Johnny Graves
First Baptist Church
Jennifer Green
Mr. & Mrs. Carlton Edmondson
V. H. Green
Mr. & Mrs. R. L. White
Vold Green
Mr. & Mrs. David F. Baker
Mr. Gregory
Ms. Martha Kirk
Laura Griffin
Mr. & Mrs. O. G. Touchstone
Mrs. Clyde Griffin
Mr. & Mrs. Jim N. Azlin
Mr. & Mrs. Don O. Baker
Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Brown
Mrs. B. F. Smith
Mr. H. O. Toler
Mrs. Doris Griffin
Mr. & Mrs. W. T. Hewitt Jr.
Mrs. Dot Griffin
Ms. Rebecca B. Ferries
Mrs. Laura Griffin
Ms. Kathleen H. Blount
Father of Randle Gula
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Malone
Mable Hales
Rebekah SS, FBC McComb
Mrs. Leota Hopper Hammack
Mrs. Brownie L. Peden
Mrs. Dorothy W. Shaw
Mr. & Mrs. Delma L. Caldwell
Buster Harbin
Mrs. Sadie Griffin
Mrs. Banks Hardy
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Filgo
Martha Harlow
Mrs. W. E. Owen
Mr. Carl Bruce Harvey
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Hones
Mrs. Oll Kirkland
Mrs. Charles Roy Slay
Mr. & Mrs. Joe T. Woodyear III
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Albrighton
Mr. & Mrs. T. F. Baden
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Marsalis
Mrs. Ben Turney
Mrs. Elsie Harville
Rev. & Mrs. Howard T. Scarborough
Mrs. Addie Mae Harrison
Mr. & Mrs. Roscoe Snell
Mr. & Mrs. J. P. Kelly
Jesse Hodgepeth
Mrs. K. B. Fowler Jr.
Mr. J. J. Hodgepeth
Mr. & Mrs. David Denson
Jerome Hembree
Southern Chevrolet, Inc.
Mrs. Amy Henderson
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Roy D. Hendricks, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Roy D. Hendricks
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Mrs. M. E. Hill
Jeanette A. Higgins
Mrs. Mary V. Golding
Mrs. Beattie Higgins
Berwick Baptist Church
Mrs. Jennie Hildreth
Mr. & Mrs. Charles R. Ellison
Mr. Bob Hill
Mrs. Becky M. Brown
Red Milling
Mr. J. R. Hills
Mrs. Lorena B. Newman
Bruce Allen and Robbie Lero Ho
* Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Hodges
Oliver Hoffmann
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Gullidge
Ellie Robert Holladay
Miss Joan Graves
(to be continued)

Update
1992 BACK TO SCHOOL
GOAL
\$85,000.00
RECEIVED AS OF
9/9/92
\$80,141.03
WE ARE ALMOST
THERE
KEEP UP THE GOOD
WORK!



Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams



"A poem in marble"

"See it by the light of the full moon, and you'll never forget it," they say. "It's a poem in marble." I saw it by sunlight, and engraved on my memory is its reflection in a long pool where cypress trees flanked the water and lotus flowers floated. It stands, as it has for over 300 years, in the ancient city of Agra, India, on the bank of the Yamuna River, memorial to a woman and her husband's love for her.

Arjumand Bano Begum the woman was called at her birth in 1592. After the Persian beauty's marriage to Shah Jehan, emperor of the Mughal Empire at Agra, he gave her the title, Mumtaz Mahal, Exalted of the Palaces. The story goes that the two loved each other very, very much. But tragedy lay ahead.

On June 17, 1631, at the age of 39, she died in childbirth. Near death, she held her husband's trembling hands. Pale and weeping, he asked, "How can I show the world, Mumtaz, that I really love you?"

She requested that he take good care of the children, that he not marry again, and that he build in her memory a unique tomb. He promised.

To build her tomb, the Taj Mahal, 20,000 men worked continuously for 12 years and 6 months. For its priceless mosaics, the emperor acquired turquoise from Tibet, cornelian from Baghdad, lapis-lazuli from Ceylon, chrysolite from the Nile, conch shells and pearls from the sea, garnet from the Ganges, diamonds from central India, alabaster, agate, red marble, black marble, sandstone, jasper, sapphires, emeralds, bloodstone, crystal, rubies, onyx, topaz.... from many places.

Years later, in *The Journal of a Tour in India*, one Captain Mundy wrote, "No description can convey an idea of the beauty and elegance of this monument.... Nothing can exceed the beauty and truth to nature of the borders of leaves and flowers inlaid in white marble.... So minute is the anatomy of the patterns that a rose, about the size of a shilling, contains in its mosaic no less than sixty pieces."

Inside the mausoleum, surrounding the tombs of Mumtaz and her husband, who was later buried beside her, is a lace-like marble screen, six feet high, which took 10 years to carve. It replaced a

similar one of silver, removed for fear of burglars.

The Taj Mahal without doubt is one of the wonders of the world. Certainly it is the most magnificent man-made structure I have ever seen. Naturally it made me wonder, "Would my husband build such a memorial for me?" (Since, come September 25, I've been married to him for 37 years, I dared to ask....)

Actually I'd rather be remembered with a memorial built of words than by a "poem in marble." I'm thinking of the woman in Bethany who poured expensive perfume on Jesus' head while he reclined at the table of Simon the Leper. Remember he said of her, "She has done a beautiful thing to me.... When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her" (Matt. 26:10, 12, 13).

I'd like to be a person so remarkably compassionate and caring that I'd be remembered in stories handed down from generation to generation. Wouldn't you?

Child care regulations pose church-state threat

WASHINGTON (ABP) — Newly imposed regulations implementing two child-care programs would allow government money to be used for religious instruction and activities, according to the Baptist Joint Committee.

The Department of Health and Human Services recently issued its final rule on two programs designed to help low-income families with child-care needs. The department issued an interim final rule a year ago, and the BJC was among those who filed public comments pointing out church-state problems with the rule.

"Although the BJC comments were noted in the final rule, the department mostly ignored our criticisms," said Brent Walker, BJC associate general counsel.

While the BJC applauds efforts to help low-income families, Walker said, it opposes government money supporting religious activities of church child-care centers.

Religious organizations provide about one-third of the nation's child care.

The final rule for the first program, Child Care and Development Block Grants, provides both direct grants to child-care providers and vouchers for parents

to use to purchase services from a variety of providers, including church child-care centers.

Walker said the act and the regulations generally disallow religious activities when providers receive direct government aid, but religious instruction is allowed when providers receive vouchers. The rule suggests, however, that a provider receiving direct grant money could still engage in religious activities if those dollars were not used to support those activities.

For example, a child-care center operating out of a church basement arguably could invite a minister to provide religious instruction to the children in the sanctuary as long as the minister was not compensated with grant money, the BJC said.

"The BJC objected that where funds are received by a sectarian organization the prohibition on religious activities should run throughout the operation," Walker said.

The final rule for the second program, Aid to Families With Dependent Children At-Risk Care, had no church-state language limiting activities that sectarian providers could engage in with public funds, he added.

Nicaraguan Baptists aid tidal wave survivors

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (BP) — Nicaraguan Baptists already have begun providing emergency food and clothing to survivors of the tidal wave that slammed Nicaragua's Pacific coast Sept. 1, killing at least 100 people.

The Baptist Convention of Nicaragua will work through local Baptist churches and also will contribute money, food, and cloth-

ing to relief efforts begun by the Nicaraguan Red Cross and CEPAD, a Nicaraguan evangelical relief organization. Missionary Sam Drummond is representing Southern Baptists on a Nicaraguan Baptist committee planning relief efforts.

The Baptist convention decided Sept. 3 to request \$25,000 in relief funds from several Baptist groups based in the United States. About \$10,000 of these funds would be earmarked for emergency food and clothing. Another \$15,000 would be used to rebuild houses destroyed by the flooding.

Annuity Board announces \$1 million gift

By Kirby F. Warnock

DALLAS (BP) — A North Carolina couple has contributed the largest personal gift in the SBC Annuity Board's history.

Paul Powell, board president, said Hughy and Wyndolyn Royster Hollifield of Winston-Salem, N.C., donated a planned, irrevocable gift of \$1 million, earmarked for the Mission Church Assistance Fund.

The fund provides five-year, decreasing supplements of retirement contributions for pastors of new or small churches. The board uses the fund to support Bold Mission Thrust, an SBC effort that includes planting of thousands of new churches throughout the nation by the turn of the century.

"I am thrilled to receive word of this gift," Powell said. "In recognition of the Hollifields' contribution, the name of the Mission Church Assistance Fund will be changed to the Wyndolyn Royster Hollifield Mission Church Assistance Fund."

Edwin S. Coates, executive director of the North Carolina Baptist Foundation, which holds trust assets for the Hollifields, said they are "truly excited about their involvement in both assisting retired pastors and families who have great need, as well as helping in a permanent way young churches and pastors to eliminate... (needy) circum-

stances in the future."

The Annuity Board is currently conducting "A Time to Remember" campaign. The three-year fund-raising program is an effort to raise \$5 million in endowment for the Retired Ministers' Support Fund, \$2.25 million for the Adopt An Annuitant ministry, and \$1 million for the Mission Church Assistance Fund.

The Retired Ministers' Support Fund is the board's permanent endowment fund, which strengthens benefits for those ministers or widows who, for whatever reason, receive little or no retirement income. As of August, some 9,888 annuitants among the board's total of 22,207 receive \$200 a month or less in retirement benefits.

"Thankfully all of these people are not in need," said Powell. "Many have other sources of income, but we believe more than 3,000 of our retired ministers or widows are living below the federal poverty level. Some do not even receive Social Security. The Cooperative Program provides just over \$600,000 a year for relief, but these funds are decreasing."

The Adopt An Annuitant program provides an extra \$50 per month for retired ministers or widows. At the end of August, 1,083 retirees were receiving this

benefit. The Hollifields previously established a planned gift of \$75,000 to endow 10 Adopt An Annuitant monthly checks.

Warnock is promotions editor for the Annuity Board.

Devotional...

Who is this person?

By Linda Mattox

Would you allow a person such as the one described below attend your church?

His name is not on the role of any organized church. People in his home town never accepted him. He doesn't own a fine home or have a permanent place of residence. He doesn't own a suit and tie. In fact, his entire wardrobe is made up of the clothes on his back! He would never be able to set the latest fashion trends. He once made it very clear to the religious leaders that a person shouldn't be judged by the way he dresses. Since he hasn't accumulated any material possessions, he probably wouldn't be able to contribute much money either.

Several years ago he had many admirers, especially among the common people. They viewed him as having a loving, humble spirit, and one who believed in encouraging people rather than criticizing their every effort. Many of the religious leaders in his home town believed him to be a radical and a trouble-maker. They saw him as a person who associates with sinners and people of other races. Why, he's even been known to eat a meal with a thief!

He has been known to work on the Lord's day. Helping a person who was in need or hungry has always taken priority over attending a set ritual of worship at an organized church. He has traveled many miles on foot just to help a friend. Many church leaders have criticized him for his unorthodox practices, but he has never refused to help a person in need.

Would this person be accepted into your church fellowship? Before you answer, perhaps you should know that his name is Jesus!

Mattox is a member of Union Church, Corinth.

Baptist Record

005-DTM 291
SOUTHERN BAPT HISTORICAL SD 00
901 COMMERCE ST SUITE 401
NASHVILLE TN 37203

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

September 17, 1992